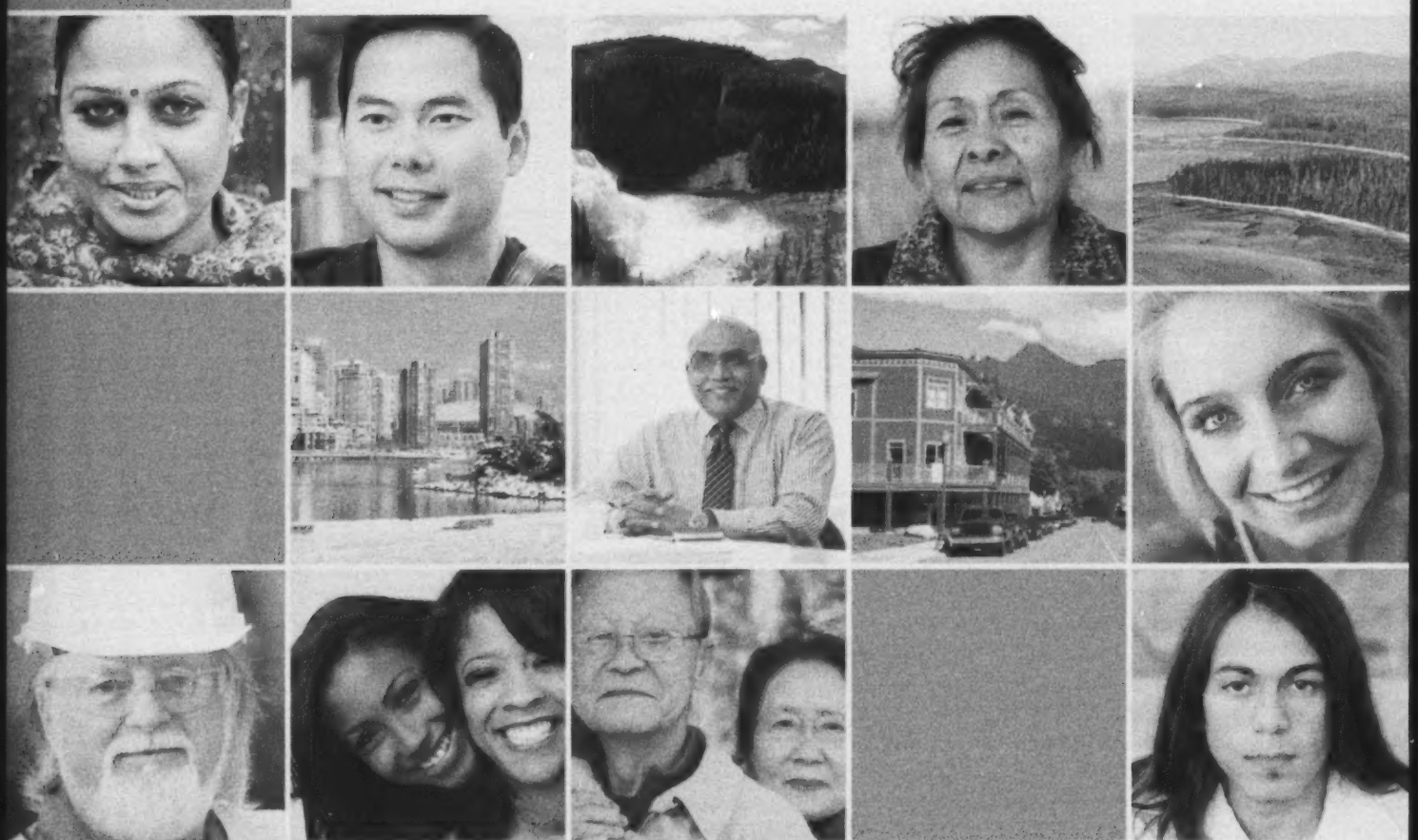
BRITISH COLUMBIA

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

COMMISSION

Final Report



SEPTEMBER 24, 2015

BRITISH COLUMBIA
ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION

September 24, 2015

Honourable Linda Reid
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province of British Columbia
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4

Dear Madame Speaker:

We have the pleasure to submit our Final Report in accordance with section 12(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act.*

Respectfully,

The Hon. Mr. Justice Thomas J. Melnick
Commission Chair

Beverley Busson, O.B.C.
Commissioner

Keith Archer, Ph.D.
Chief Electoral Officer
Commissioner

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Executive summary

Executive summary

All British Columbians are represented in the Legislative Assembly by a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). There are currently 85 MLAs to represent the constituents of the 85 provincial electoral districts. In theory, in accordance with the principle of representation by population, each MLA should, to the degree possible, represent a similar number of constituents.

Recognizing that population growth is not uniform throughout the province, periodic reviews of the boundaries ensure that the representation of constituents by MLAs remains equitable and effective in all areas of the province. As prescribed by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, a new electoral boundaries commission must be established after every second general election to propose changes to the area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts of British Columbia.

Our commission was appointed on May 9, 2014. We are:

- Mr. Justice Thomas Melnick, Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia (Chair)
- Beverley Busson, O.B.C., former Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Keith Archer, Ph.D., Chief Electoral Officer for the province of British Columbia

We began our duties by educating ourselves about the nature and process of assessing and setting electoral boundaries, and the history of electoral boundaries commissions in the province. It was important not to form early opinions about where any of the electoral district boundaries should be. We wanted to keep an open mind and first hear from British Columbians about their opinions regarding the current electoral districts, and what changes, if any, they would suggest.

Between September and November 2014 we travelled the province, visiting 29 communities and hearing from 128 presenters. We received an additional 295 written submissions, largely through our website, during this same period. All of this input was very helpful in understanding how British Columbians interact with their elected representatives and how the electoral boundaries affect and enable these interactions and effective representation.

Since the Preliminary Report

We submitted our Preliminary Report containing our initial proposals to the Legislative Assembly on March 26, 2015. In April and May we looked again to British Columbians to provide their opinions on our proposals either online or at one of our hearings. We heard from 144 presenters at 15 community hearings and received 426 written submissions.

The majority of the public input we received was regarding three areas: Hope and the Fraser Canyon, Surrey, and the Comox Valley. Opinions were split whether Hope is the gateway to the Interior and therefore belongs in the Fraser-Nicola electoral district, or whether it is the gateway to the Fraser Valley and therefore belongs in an electoral district with Chilliwack. The Fleetwood community of Surrey was very vocal regarding the need to maintain the core of the Fleetwood neighbourhood, including Fleetwood Park and Fleetwood Park Secondary School, in Surrey-Fleetwood. In addition to requests to keep Courtenay and Comox together, we also heard from the community of Cumberland regarding its strong ties to Courtenay and Comox. We propose placing Hope and the Fraser Canyon in Fraser-Nicola, re-establishing Fleetwood Park and Fleetwood Park Secondary School in Surrey-Fleetwood, and making Cumberland an anchor community of the Mid Island-Pacific Rim electoral district.

Our final proposals also differ from the preliminary proposals in the electoral districts of Shuswap, Vernon-Monashee, Vancouver-Point Grey, Vancouver-Quilchena, West Vancouver-Sea to Sky, Surrey-Cloverdale, Surrey-Fleetwood, Langley, Langley East, Abbotsford West, Abbotsford South, Abbotsford-Mission, Chilliwack, Chilliwack-Kent, Nanaimo, and Nanaimo-North Cowichan.

Our final proposals

We considered all of the input received in the fall and spring before producing our final proposals. Our final proposals contain changes to 48 of the current 85 districts, while also proposing two additional electoral districts in Richmond and Surrey. Most of the changes are relatively minor, including adjustments to better align the boundaries to roads, administrative boundaries and natural geographic features.

Substantial changes are proposed in the Lower Mainland, particularly in Richmond and Surrey where we added a district to each community. These changes are summarized below. More detail about all the changes, along with maps of our proposed electoral districts are contained in the Proposals section of this report. An interactive map of current and proposed electoral districts is available on the commission website (www.bc-ebc.ca).

In making our proposals we are guided first and foremost by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. We considered all of the input received from British Columbians about the existing boundaries and where they felt change was warranted. Reflecting upon their input, we developed additional guidelines flowing from the legislation that would assist our decision-making within this framework.

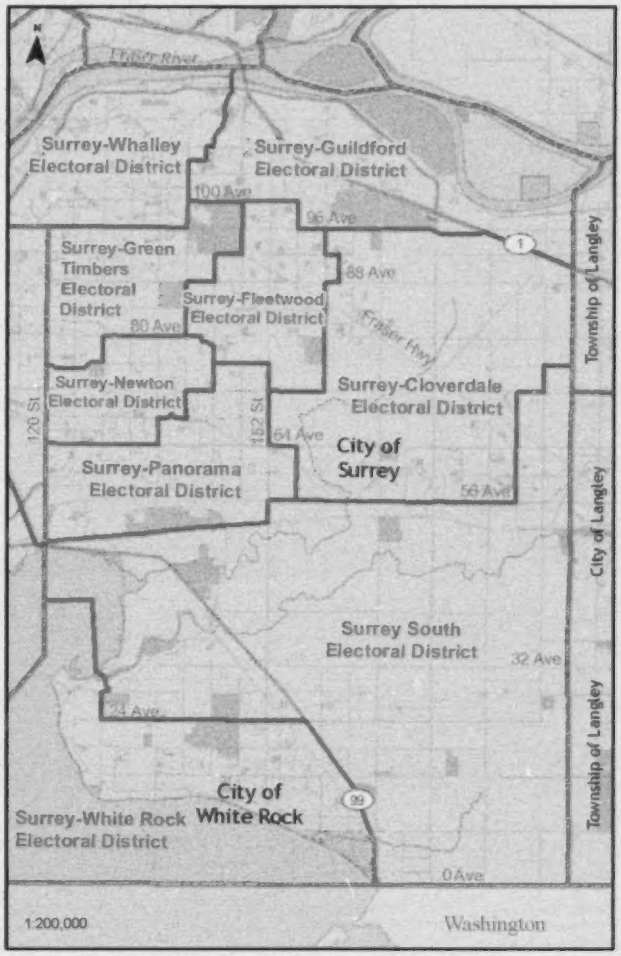
Amendments to the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* in May 2014 defined three regions of the province (the North Region, the Cariboo-Thompson Region, and the Columbia-Kootenay Region) in which the number of electoral districts cannot be reduced from their current number. This has, of course, influenced in large measure our ability to propose electoral districts that are equal in population. It has also influenced our decision to propose 87 electoral districts, an increase of two from the current number, and the maximum allowable under the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*.

According to the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, these final proposals must be submitted to the Legislative Assembly by September 25, 2015 – six months after the submission of the Preliminary Report. The proposals contained in this report are recommendations. The final decision regarding adoption of our proposals lies with the Members of the Legislative Assembly. With the submission of this report the work of the commission is complete.

Substantial changes

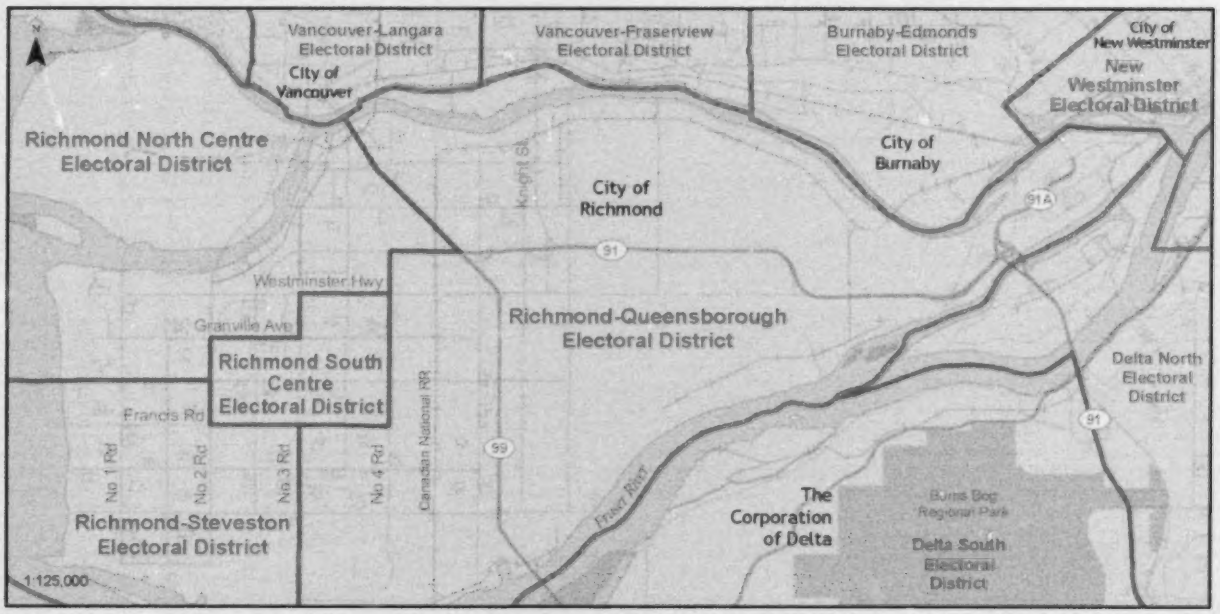
Surrey

- Current districts are well over the provincial average (two of eight more than 25% over) and this is also an area of high growth.
- An electoral district is added to this area and boundaries are substantially altered to rebalance the population.
- The Cloverdale community is too large for a single district and parts of the community are included in two electoral districts. Efforts were made to maintain the entire downtown core in one district.
- We strived to maintain communities of interest to the extent possible.



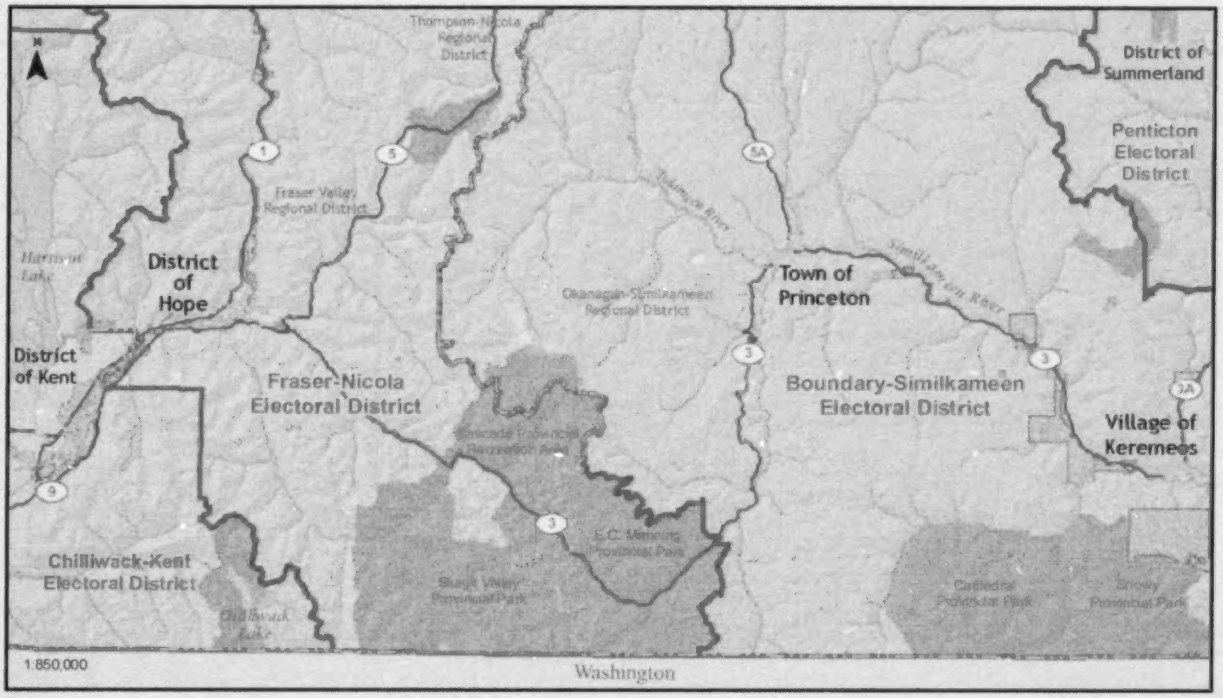
Richmond/New Westminster

- Current districts are well over the provincial average (three of four more than 25% over) and this is also an area of high growth.
- An electoral district is added to this area and boundaries are substantially altered to rebalance the population.
- The Queensborough neighbourhood of New Westminster is combined with residents in Richmond to create a joint Richmond and Queensborough electoral district.
- We strived to maintain communities of interest to the extent possible.



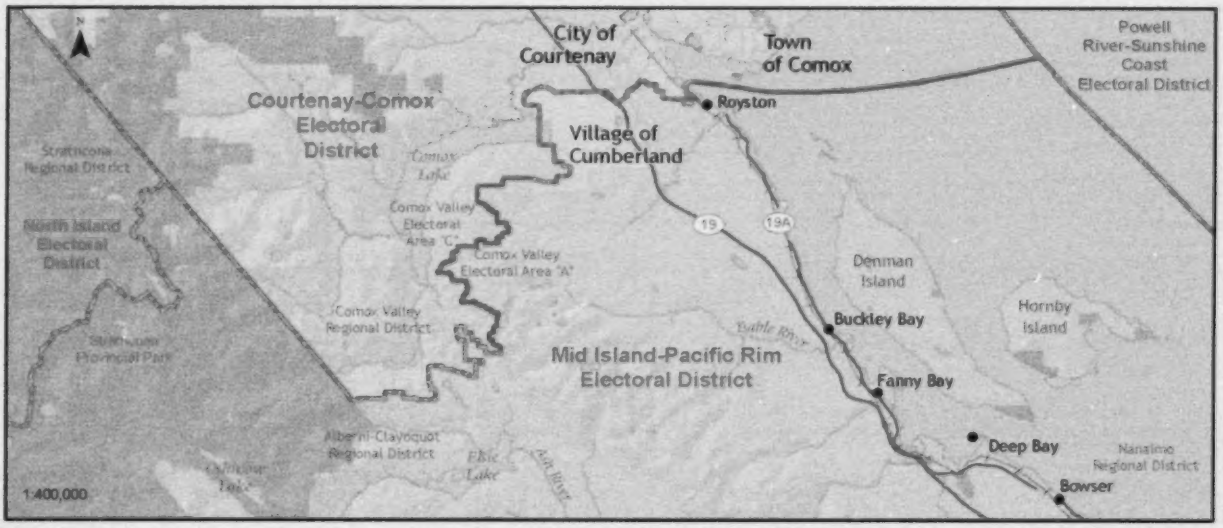
Hope and Princeton

- The Hope and Fraser Canyon communities are added to Fraser-Nicola to bring Fraser-Nicola closer to the provincial average.
- Princeton is added to Boundary-Similkameen to bring the population of the district within the acceptable deviation from the provincial average.



Comox Valley and mid-Vancouver Island

- The disparity between the neighbouring districts of Comox Valley (22% over the provincial average) and Alberni-Pacific Rim (18% under the provincial average) is too great.
- Despite many submissions requesting no change to the Comox Valley we concluded that the relative disparity (both now and in the near future) is too great to ignore.
- With the proposed changes, Cumberland, Royston and the southern Comox Valley are now part of our proposed Mid Island-Pacific Rim electoral district, bringing both districts much closer to the provincial average while ensuring strong communities of interest in both.



Other communities in which changes are proposed:

- Burnaby
- Capital Region
- Cranbrook area
- Fraser Valley
- Kamloops area
- Nanaimo area
- North Vancouver
- Prince George
- Tri-Cities
- Vancouver
- West Vancouver
- Williams Lake

The following tables show the population and deviation from the provincial average in each of our proposed electoral districts.

Table 1: Proposed electoral districts population – North Region[1]

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Stikine	20,616	-61.2
Peace River North	43,263	-18.6
Peace River South	28,104	-47.1
Prince George-Valemount	48,267	-9.1
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,894	-11.7
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-47.9
Skeena	30,240	-43.1
North Coast	22,382	-57.9

Table 2: Proposed electoral districts population – Cariboo-Thompson Region

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Cariboo North	29,542	-44.4
Cariboo-Chilcotin	33,520	-36.9
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	1.7
Kamloops-South Thompson	56,410	6.2
Fraser-Nicola	34,034	-35.9

Table 3: Proposed electoral districts population – Columbia-Kootenay Region

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Kootenay West	41,302	-22.2
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-30.5
Kootenay East	40,466	-23.8
Columbia River-Revelstoke	31,907	-39.9

Table 4: Proposed electoral districts population – Okanagan/Shuswap

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Shuswap	56,352	6.1
Vernon-Monashee	62,106	16.9
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	15.0
Kelowna West	59,750	12.5
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	13.7
Penticton	56,722	6.8
Boundary-Similkameen	42,340	-20.3

Table 5: Proposed electoral districts population – Greater Vancouver

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	14.1
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	12.9
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	12.4
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	13.0
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	15.3
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	18.4
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	17.6
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	12.0
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	9.3
Vancouver-False Creek	57,261	7.8
Vancouver-West End	57,287	7.8
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	55,129	3.8
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	7.6
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	57,431	8.1
North Vancouver-Seymour	58,120	9.4
Port Moody-Coquitlam	59,355	11.7
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	11.1
Port Coquitlam	60,813	14.5
Coquitlam-Maillardville	58,351	9.8
Burnaby-Lougheed	59,797	12.6
Burnaby North	58,159	9.5
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,195	9.6
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	13.8

1 All population figures in this report are as of May 10, 2014. All population deviations are based on a provincial population of 4,621,394, the proposed 87 electoral districts and an electoral quotient of 53,119.

Table 5: Proposed electoral districts population – Greater Vancouver, continued

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
New Westminster	61,422	15.6
Richmond-Queensborough	55,627	4.7
Richmond North Centre	49,157	-7.5
Richmond South Centre	50,101	-5.7
Richmond-Steveston	55,539	4.6
Delta South	47,577	-10.4
Delta North	55,011	3.6
Surrey-Whalley	58,668	10.4
Surrey-Guildford	58,037	9.3
Surrey-Cloverdale	59,649	12.3
Surrey-Fleetwood	60,477	13.9
Surrey-Green Timbers	58,816	10.7
Surrey-Newton	58,340	9.8
Surrey-Panorama	60,128	13.2
Surrey South	57,746	8.7
Surrey-White Rock	58,588	10.3

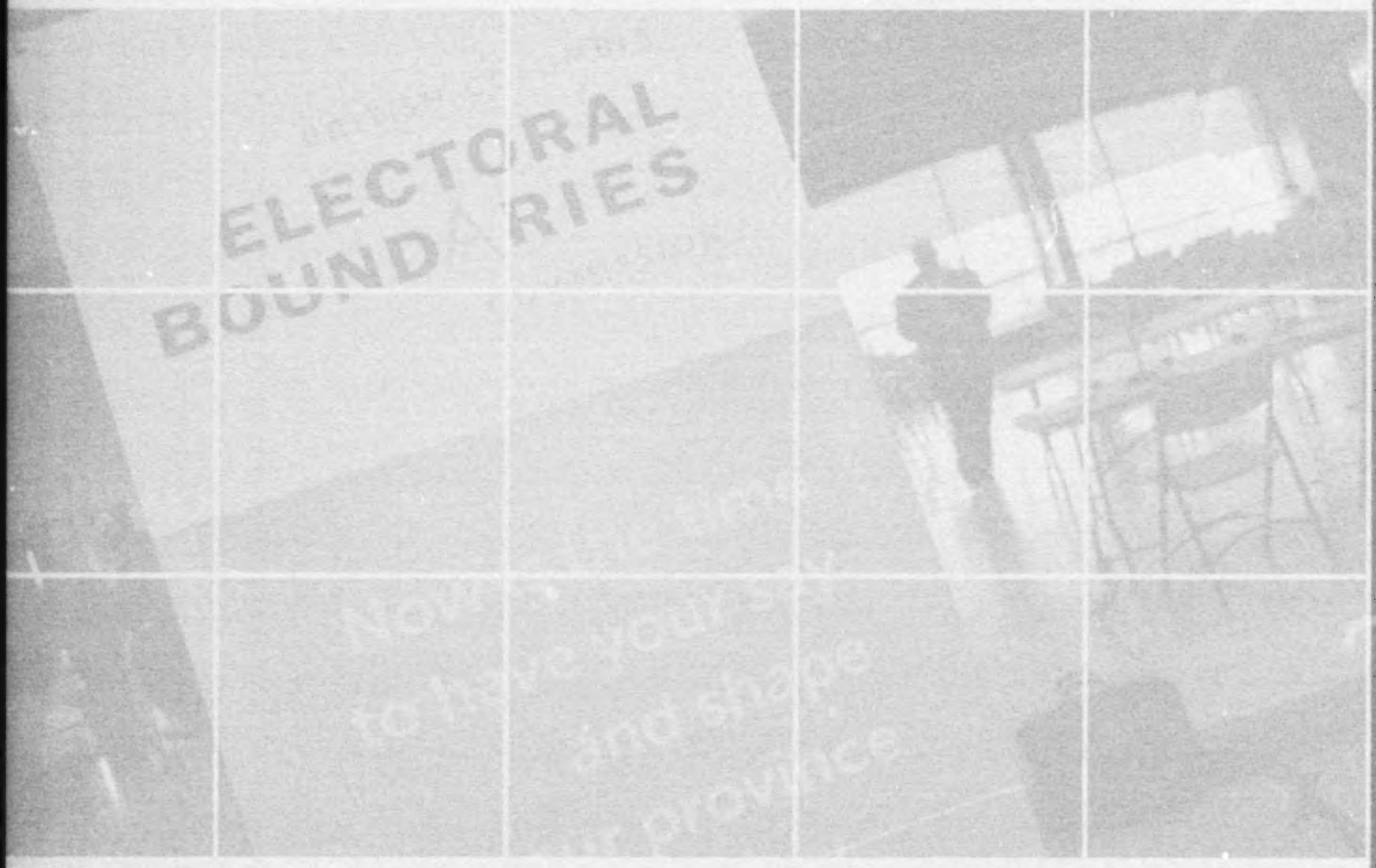
Table 6: Proposed electoral districts population – Fraser Valley

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Langley	59,812	12.6
Langley East	61,576	15.9
Abbotsford South	61,997	16.7
Abbotsford West	60,339	13.6
Abbotsford-Mission	60,962	14.8
Chilliwack	49,089	-7.6
Chilliwack-Kent	51,021	-3.9
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	9.7
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	10.5

Table 7: Proposed electoral districts population – Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-5.8
North Island	55,633	4.7
Courtenay-Comox	54,816	3.2
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	52,833	-0.5
Parksville-Qualicum	54,089	1.8
Nanaimo	57,008	7.3
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	52,414	-1.3
Cowichan Valley	59,232	11.5
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	6.3
Saanich South	51,661	-2.7
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-2.9
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	55,689	4.8
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,707	3.0
Esquimalt-Metchosin	51,450	-3.1
Langford-Juan de Fuca	51,782	-2.5

Mandate



Mandate

Commission

After every second provincial general election, a new electoral boundaries commission is appointed to propose changes to the provincial electoral boundaries.

Under the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, the British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission must consist of:

- A judge or retired judge of the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal who is nominated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council;
- A person who is not a member of the Legislative Assembly or an employee of the government and who is nominated by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, after consultation with the Premier and the Leader of the Official Opposition; and
- The Chief Electoral Officer appointed under the *Election Act*.

One of these individuals must be appointed as Chair.

On May 9, 2014, our three-person, independent, non-partisan electoral boundaries commission was appointed. Our commissioners are:

- Mr. Justice Thomas Melnick, Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia (Chair)
- Beverley Busson, O.B.C., former Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Keith Archer, Ph.D., Chief Electoral Officer for the province of British Columbia

Left to right:
Keith Archer, Beverley Busson and Thomas Melnick (Chair)

Mandate

Our function is to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the area, boundaries, and names of provincial electoral districts. If our deliberations dictate that the number of electoral districts should be increased, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* allows us to make proposals for up to two additional electoral districts, to a maximum of 87. We cannot recommend fewer than 85 electoral districts. The Legislative Assembly is responsible for approving or amending our proposals before they are passed into law.

Electoral Boundaries Commission Act

In carrying out our mandate, we are guided by the requirements of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* which sets out the process for reviewing the area, boundaries and names of electoral districts in British Columbia.

When developing our proposals, section 9(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* instructs us to be governed by the following:

- The principle of representation by population be achieved, recognizing the imperatives imposed by geographical and demographic realities, the legacy of our history and the need to balance the community interests of the people of British Columbia;
- To achieve that principle, the commission be permitted to deviate from the provincial electoral quotient by no more than +/-25%; and,
- We may propose electoral districts with population deviations exceeding +/- 25% where we consider that very special circumstances exist.

Representation by population
Method of using population as the primary factor in determining electoral districts with relatively equal population in each district.

Electoral quotient (the provincial average)
The provincial population divided by the number of current electoral districts.

Deviation
Electoral district population above or below the electoral quotient.

As an exception to these principles, the *Act* defines three regions of the province in which, for the purpose of effective representation in the Legislative Assembly, the number of electoral districts may not be reduced from their current number. For this purpose we are permitted to exceed the +/- 25% population deviation rule.

Table 8: Defined regions

Defined region	Electoral districts within region
Cariboo-Thompson Region	Cariboo North Cariboo-Chilcotin Fraser-Nicola Kamloops-North Thompson Kamloops-South Thompson
Columbia-Kootenay Region	Columbia River-Revelstoke Kootenay East Kootenay West Nelson-Creston
North Region	Nechako Lakes North Coast Peace River North Peace River South Prince George-Mackenzie Prince George-Valemount Skeena Stikine

Section 9(2) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* requires us to take into account the following additional factors when making our proposals for all electoral districts:

- Geographic and demographic considerations, including the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia and the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia; and,
- The availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

The right to vote and population equality

The Supreme Court of Canada's decision in the Saskatchewan Reference[2] in 1991 provides considerable guidance to electoral boundaries commissions as to the standard for relative equality of voting power among citizens. Section 3 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms provides that all citizens have the right to vote in periodic elections, and the right to be a candidate for elective office. The question for the Court, in examining the implications of this right for electoral boundaries, was whether the right to vote meant that citizens had the right to vote in electoral districts that were comprised of populations equal in size or whether some variation from equality was permissible, and, if variation from equality was permissible, what was the limit of permissible variation.

It is notable that courts in the United States have interpreted voting rights as requiring almost no deviation from population equality among electoral districts. In the words of Professor John Courtney, "the Supreme Court of Canada's sole decision on electoral boundary readjustments (i.e., the Saskatchewan Reference case) deliberately eschewed strict American notions of voter equality. In its place the court advanced the notions of 'relative equality of voting power,' 'better government,' and 'effective representation'" as the core principles used in boundary readjustment in Canada. (Courtney, Commissioned Ridings, 2001, pp. 151-2).

The meaning of the right to vote was discussed in considerable detail by the Supreme Court in the Saskatchewan Reference. Writing for the majority, Madam Justice McLachlin stated,

> the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in s. 3 of the Charter is not equality of voting power per se, but the right to "effective representation". Ours is a representative democracy. Each citizen is entitled to be represented in government (p. 183).

The Court then went on to ask,

> What are the conditions of effective representation? The first is relative parity of voting power. A system which dilutes one citizen's vote unduly as compared with another citizen's vote runs the risk of providing inadequate representation to the citizen whose vote is diluted.... The result will be uneven and unfair representation (pp. 183-4).

However, the Court continued, equality of voting power is not the only factor that affects effective representation. First, this is the case because strict equality of voting power is not achievable, since there is continuous change to the electorate. In addition,

> factors like geography, community history, community interests and minority representation may need to be taken into account to ensure that our legislative assemblies effectively represent the diversity of our social mosaic (p. 184).

The Court did not directly take up the question in the Saskatchewan Reference of whether there are absolute limits on variations in electoral district populations when taking into account these other factors of representation, such as geography, community history and the like. However, the Court did review the limits as then outlined in the Saskatchewan *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*. The *Act* provided for the creation of 66 electoral districts. Of these, 64 were urban and rural districts in the southern half of the province, and two were rural districts in the northern half of the province. The 64 southern districts were required to have a variation within +/- 25% of the provincial electoral quotient, and the two northern districts could be as much as 50% below the electoral quotient.

2 Ref. re *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* (Sask.) (1991), 81 D.L.R. (4th) 16 (S.C.C.).

The Court found that the electoral maps, based on these legislative requirements, provided effective representation, and thus did not violate section 3 of the Charter. Thus, effective representation, which is the purpose of the right to vote, is provided when electoral districts contain relative equality of voting (that is, where variation generally is within +/- 25% deviation from average, and possibly greater where special or unusual circumstances require). Deviations from population equality provide a capacity to take into account other factors important in effective representation, such as geography, community history, community interests, minority representation, or other factors relevant to the locality.

Effective representation

In May 2014, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia passed the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2014*. This revised *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* defined three regions, including the North Region (with eight electoral districts), the Cariboo-Thompson Region (with five electoral districts), and the Columbia-Kootenay Region (with four electoral districts). These regions comprise much of the remote and rural areas of British Columbia, characterized by relatively large geographical areas and relatively small populations. In general, population growth has been lower in these regions than in the province as a whole.

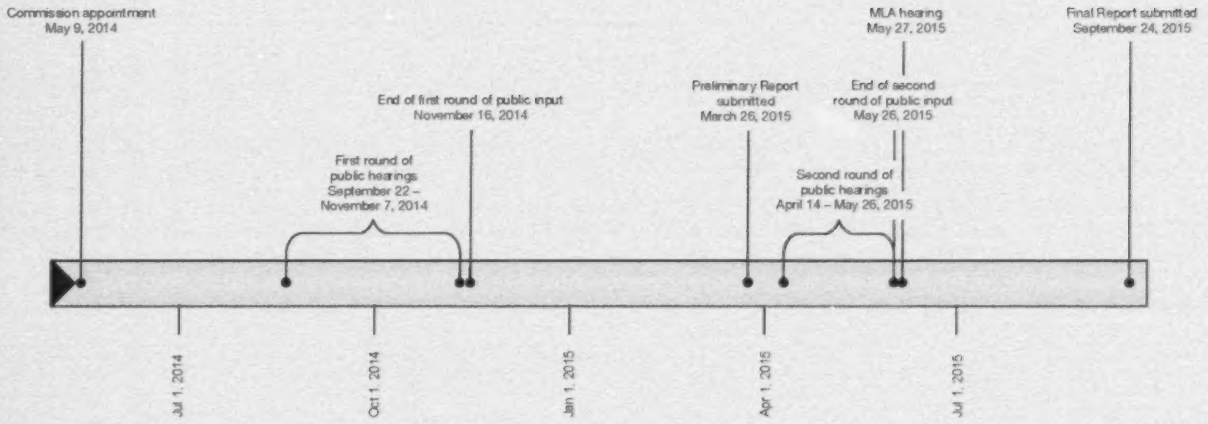
The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* provides in general that electoral districts should have a population within +/- 25% of the provincial electoral quotient, although it also provides that in very special circumstances, an electoral district can have a population outside this range. The *Act* further provides that in the three defined regions, variations can be outside the +/- 25% range.

The populations in the three defined regions are presented in Tables 1-3 (p. 8). As can be seen in Table 1, the population in the North Region (based on 87 electoral districts, and using 2014 population estimates), is 267,458. The average electoral district in the North Region has a population of 33,432, which is 37.1% below the average electoral district population in British Columbia as a whole (53,119). In the Cariboo-Thompson Region (Table 2), total population is 207,466 and the average electoral district population is 41,493, which is 21.9% below the average electoral district in British Columbia. Table 3 shows that in the Columbia-Kootenay Region, the total population for the four electoral districts is 150,582, for an average of 37,646, which is 29.1% below the average electoral district in British Columbia.

It is evident that the defined regions each will have a number of electoral districts more than 25% below the provincial electoral quotient. Tables 1 to 3 illustrate the extent of the variation in these regions. In the North Region, two of the electoral districts have populations more than 50% below the provincial average, three districts are between 25% and 50% below average, and three districts are between +/- 25% from the provincial average. In the Cariboo-Thompson Region, three of the electoral districts are between 25% and 50% below the provincial average, whereas the other two districts are within the +/- 25% variation (and in fact are both slightly over the provincial average population). In the Columbia-Kootenay Region, two districts are between 25% and 50% below average and two are within the +/- 25% range.

Timeline

Figure 1: 2015 Electoral Boundaries Commission timeline



Under the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, a new electoral boundaries commission must be appointed one year after every second provincial general election. Our commission was formed on May 9, 2014.

We began our duties by developing work plans and educating ourselves over the summer about the nature and process of electoral boundary setting. We invited experts to brief us on subjects such as electoral boundaries legislation, the role of electoral districts in election administration, the evolution of electoral boundaries in British Columbia, and demographics and population statistics.

At the beginning of September 2014, following our learning phase, we established our website and, on our website, began soliciting input from British Columbians regarding their opinions about the current electoral districts and if and where they thought changes were required. We also held a series of public hearings in 29 communities across the province between September 22 and November 7 to hear from British Columbians who were able to attend in-person. The public input period, during which submissions could also be made through the website and by mail, closed at midnight on November 16.

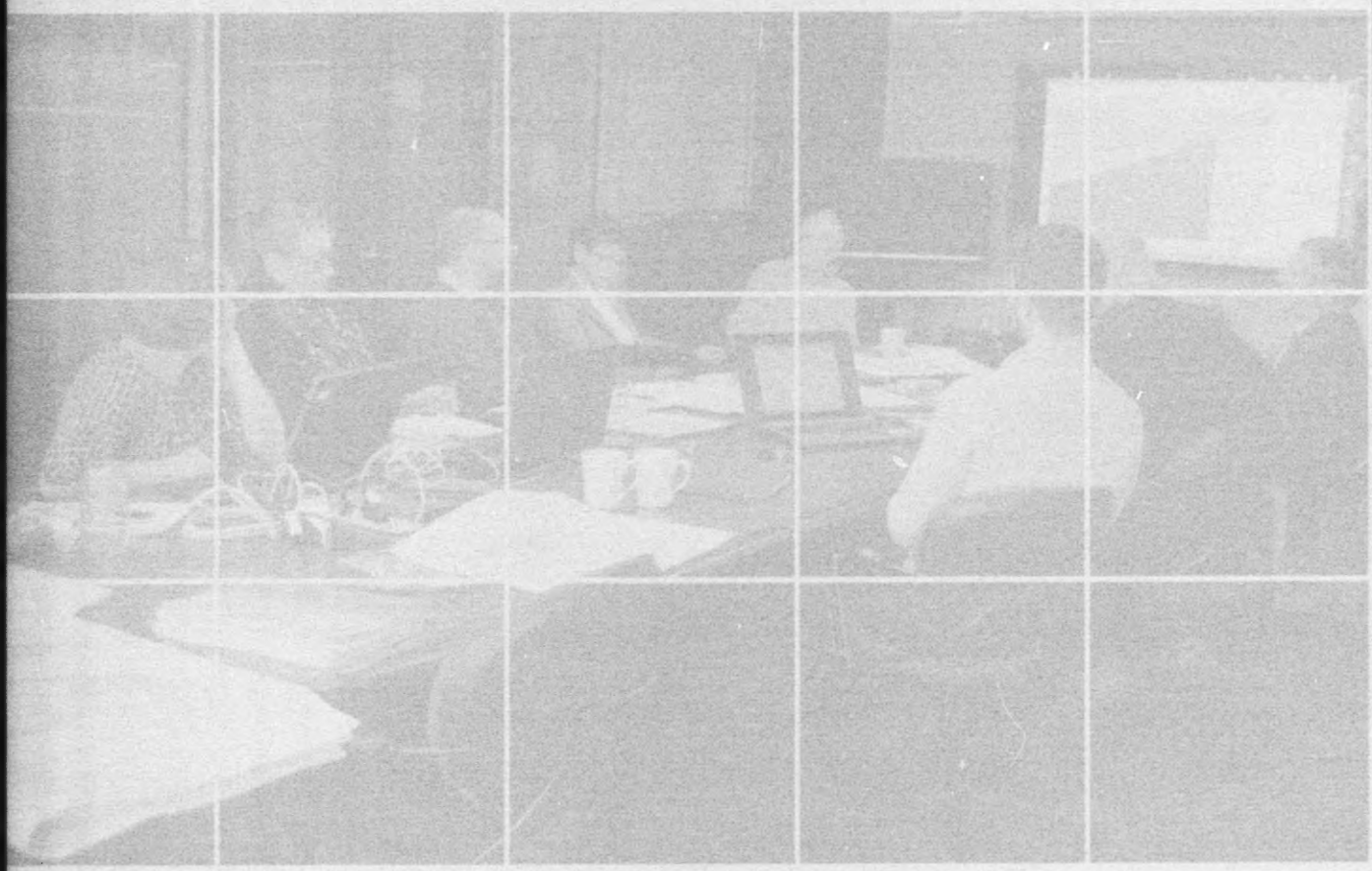
We subsequently met to consider all of the public input and begin our deliberations. Our intent was to first hear from British Columbians about their opinions of the current electoral districts and their recommendations before we turned our attention to developing our proposals.

After reviewing all public input we deliberated and finalized our preliminary proposals for the number of electoral districts and the area, boundaries and names for each electoral district in our Preliminary Report submitted to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on March 26, 2015.

Following the submission of the Preliminary Report, we once again turned to the public for their input. This time we asked British Columbians to voice their opinions about our proposals. Submissions were made through our website or at one of our public hearings held in 15 communities across the province between April 14 and May 26. According to the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, following

the public hearings and the close of the public input period, we gave MLAs an additional opportunity to make oral submissions to us. We held two hearings in Victoria for MLAs on May 27. While these hearings were open to public attendance, submissions could only be made by Members. Upon consideration of all input, we deliberated and present our final proposals in this report.

Process



Process

Data

We are relying on 2014 population estimates and projections from BC Stats to draw our proposed electoral boundaries. These estimates are based on the 2011 census count, which is the most recent and reliable population data. The 2014 population estimates show that as of May 10, 2014[3], there are 4,621,394 people in British Columbia, an increase of nine percent since the current boundaries were established in 2008. This growth, however, has been uneven across the province.

Electoral quotient

The electoral quotient is the average population per electoral district and is calculated by dividing the provincial population by the number of electoral districts.

Absent a finding of very special circumstances, the population of each of our proposed electoral districts outside of the defined regions is permitted to deviate from the electoral quotient by no more than +/- 25%. That is, each electoral district's population must be no more than 25% under the provincial average and no more than 25% above the provincial average. The greater the number of electoral districts, the smaller the electoral quotient (or average population per district) will be and the smaller the electoral quotient, the smaller the permissible range will be.

We are permitted to propose between 85 and 87 electoral districts. We conclude that 87 electoral districts are necessary to ensure the effective representation of all British Columbians and recognize the growth in the more densely populated Lower Mainland.

With 87 electoral districts, the electoral quotient is 53,119.

Deviation and "very special circumstances"

Based on an electoral quotient of 53,119 we may make proposals for electoral districts with populations as high as 66,399 (25% above the electoral quotient) and as low as 39,839 (25% below the electoral quotient), while maintaining relative parity of voter power. As an exception to this requirement, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* permits electoral districts within the three defined regions to be beyond +/- 25%.

The *Act* also allows us to exceed the minimum and maximum population size where very special circumstances exist. All of our proposed electoral districts outside of the defined regions are within +/- 25%.

3 This date corresponds with the start of the commission's work.

Approach

We developed the following guidelines based on the principles established by legislation to further assist our decision-making process.

Because we wanted to consider the historic configuration of our province's electoral districts, we took the existing boundaries into consideration. Based on what we heard from people across the province, we concluded that we should propose changes to these boundaries only where logical and necessary.

We tried to balance the populations of electoral districts in the same area or municipality where possible, in an effort to ensure effective representation.

Natural boundaries such as rivers, heights of land, rights of way, parks and major highways make good electoral district boundaries as well because they typically divide communities and provide clear demarcations between distinct areas. We tried to use such natural boundaries as electoral district boundaries where possible.

We also strived to align electoral district boundaries with municipal boundaries and sought to avoid splitting local jurisdictions such as cities or towns across multiple electoral districts. In densely populated areas this was not always possible. In those communities we tried to draw boundaries that followed neighbourhoods and attempted to keep like-communities together.

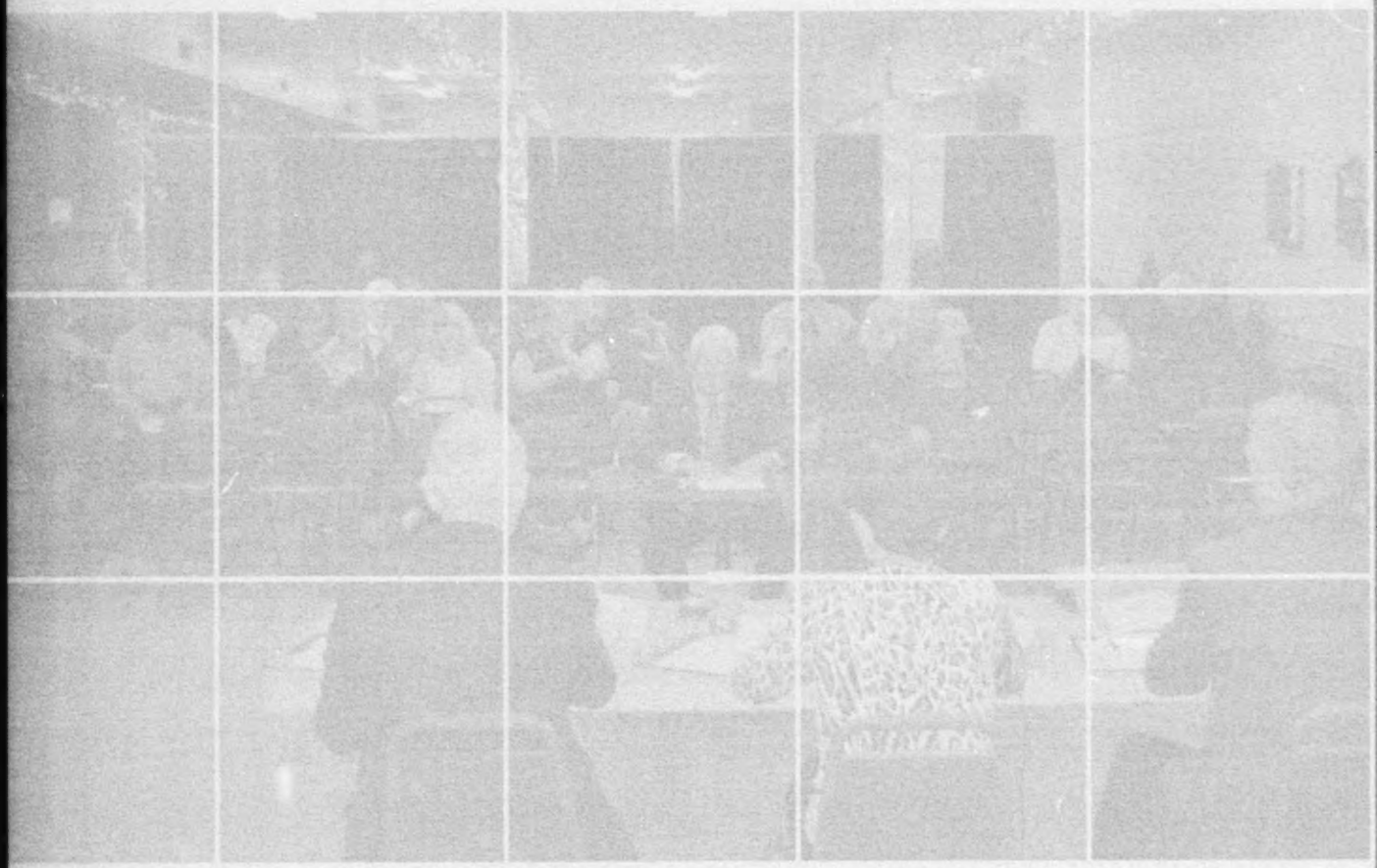
In sparsely populated areas of the province we sought to use other existing jurisdictional boundaries. We were told during the public input period that using regional district, electoral area, and school district boundaries helps to eliminate voter confusion as these are boundaries with which many people are familiar. However, at times population imbalances among adjoining electoral districts led us to deviate from a rigid application of this principle.

We also considered the impact of our decisions on First Nations communities. We tried to avoid splitting reserves and when possible we endeavoured to propose boundaries that would not split bands or nations.

In order to respect the role of the public in providing feedback to our proposals, we chose not to introduce substantial changes to our preliminary proposals in this Final Report that were not raised in our Preliminary Report or during the public hearings.

The consideration of these guidelines, together with the considered judgment of the commission, has produced the electoral boundaries recommended in this Final Report.

Proposals



Proposals

A consistent message from the public in both the fall and the spring public input periods was that change should be made only where necessary. Many of the presenters at our public hearings were content with their current electoral district boundaries and were satisfied with their level of representation, even if the population of their electoral district was well above or well below the provincial average. Relative parity of voting power was not as significant to most of these British Columbians as simply feeling well represented. We agree that changes to the existing boundaries should be made only where necessary and this guideline is reflected in our proposals.

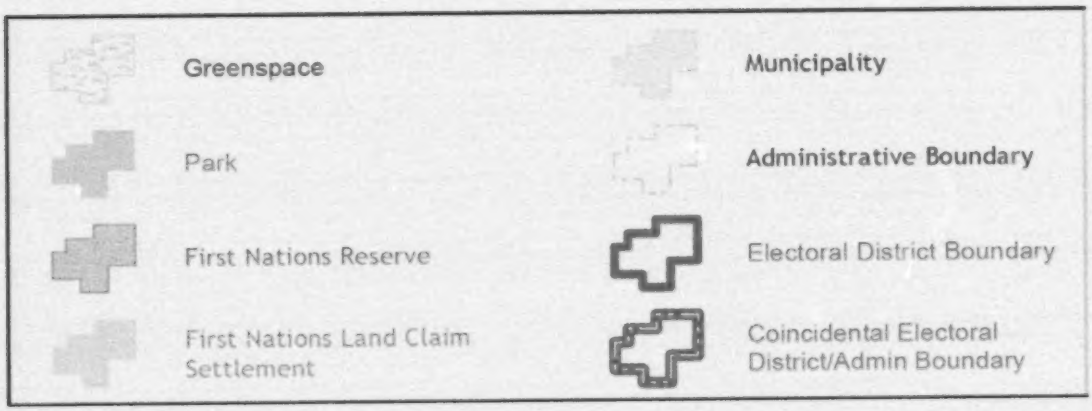
More than 40% of the existing electoral districts are not changed under our proposal. Because the number of electoral districts in the three defined regions cannot be reduced, those regions saw very little change. More substantial changes are proposed in the Lower Mainland to address communities that have grown much faster than the rest of the province and where electoral districts are more than 25% over the provincial average. An additional district has been added in each of Richmond and Surrey in response to exceptional growth in these two communities and also in the case of Richmond, results in the combination of some of its population with the Queensborough residents of New Westminster. Outside of the Lower Mainland, our proposals contain more modest changes that are intended largely to rebalance populations within communities while also providing for the representation of communities of interest.

This Final Report also contains a number of minor adjustments to 16 electoral districts to better align the boundaries to roads, administrative boundaries and natural geographic features.[4] None of these changes alter the character or population of the electoral district and many of the changes are not even visible on our maps. Where these adjustments have not altered the population of an electoral district they are not counted in this report as an electoral district to which we have proposed changes.

Of our final proposed 87 electoral districts, only 17 vary from the provincial average by less than +/- 5%. Nearly half of all districts (40) are within +/- 10% of the provincial average, and three-quarters (66) are within +/- 15% of the average. Ten electoral districts, all located in one of the three defined regions, have populations more than 25% below the provincial average. None have populations more than 25% above the provincial average. Within the context of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, we believe that these boundaries will provide British Columbians in all areas of the province with effective representation.

4 For example, in Maple Ridge-Mission we adjusted a small section of the northern boundary to follow the District of Mission municipal boundary where it previously varied slightly from it. Similar minor adjustments are proposed to: Abbotsford-Mission, Cowichan Valley, Kamloops-North Thompson, Kamloops-South Thompson, Kelowna West, Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows, Mid Island-Pacific Rim, Nechako Lakes, Penticton, Shuswap, Skeena, Stikine, Vernon-Monashee, Victoria-Beacon Hill, and Victoria-Swan Lake.

Figure 2: Map legend



North Region

The electoral districts within the area defined by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* as the North Region are vast in size but are sparsely populated. For example, the Stikine electoral district is almost 200,000 square kilometres, but has a population of only 20,616 – more than 61% below the provincial average. Although the population of six of the eight North Region electoral districts are well below the -25% deviation, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* exempts the districts in the three defined regions from this standard, and requires that the number of electoral districts in the North Region not be reduced. We were reminded regularly during the public input period by those living in the North Region of the accessibility challenges presented by the geography, transportation routes and weather, and of the impact these challenges have on MLAs and constituents travelling to meet with each other. These challenges were particularly significant outside of the larger population centres of the region. The vast majority of the input we received from the public about this region argued that there is no need for change.

We propose no changes to: Stikine, Peace River North, Peace River South, Nechako Lakes, Skeena and North Coast.

Prince George

In contrast to the public input received about most of the North Region, the commission received a number of requests in the fall during the first round of public input to adjust the boundaries of the two electoral districts around Prince George. Prince George is the North Region's largest urban centre with a population of 74,133 people. It largely is made up of three communities: the Hart, the Bowl and College Heights. Those who spoke to us about these communities explained each is distinct and should not be split across multiple districts. We determined it is important to keep entire communities of interest in the same electoral district where possible and have adjusted the boundaries of Prince George-Valemount and Prince George-Mackenzie where they divide the City of Prince George.

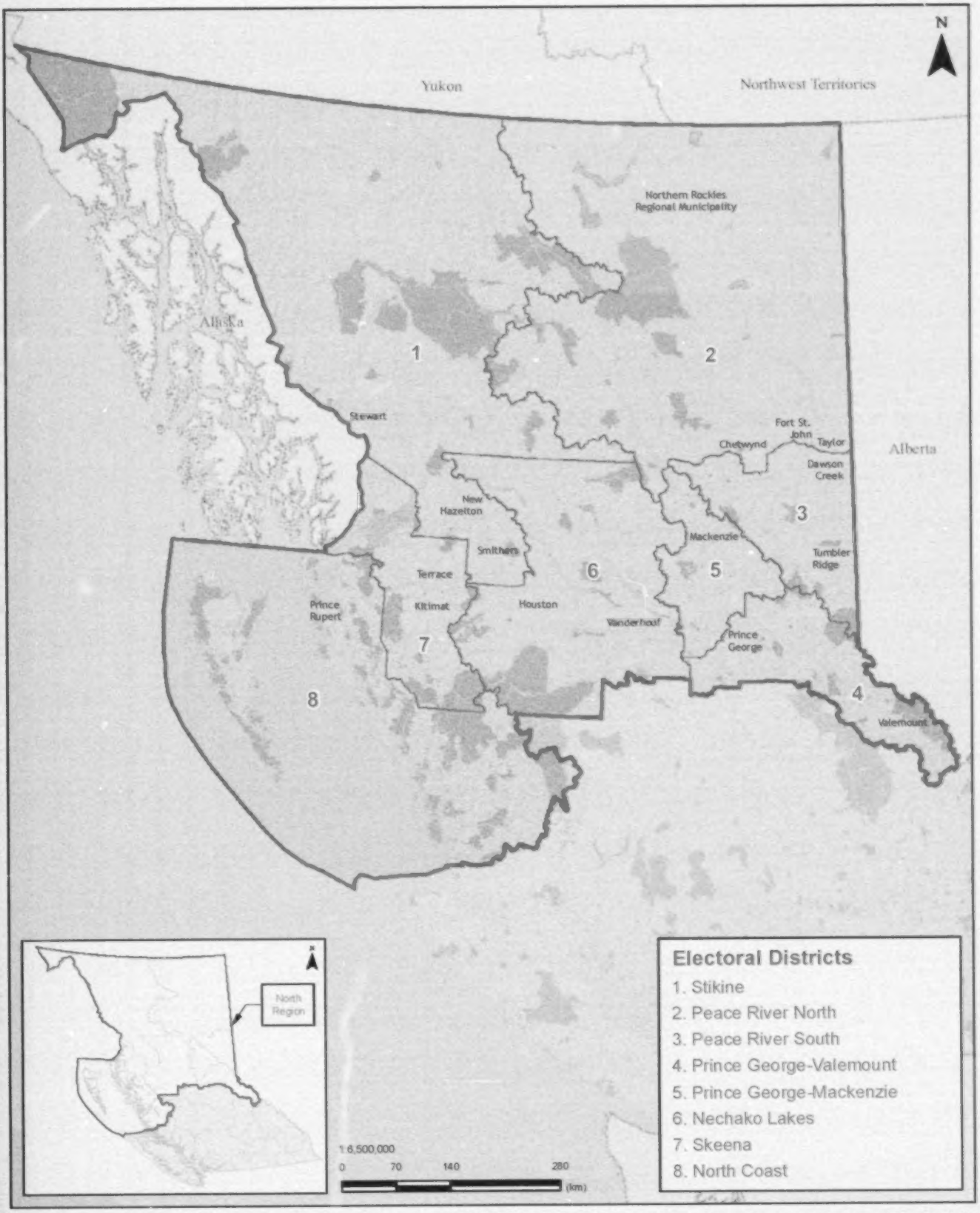
Instead of following Highway 97 through the centre of Prince George, dividing the Hart neighbourhood, the new boundary follows the Fraser and Nechako rivers to the John Hart Bridge, thereby placing the entire Hart neighbourhood in Prince George-Mackenzie. We have also avoided splitting the College Heights neighbourhood by moving the boundary from Highway 16 and instead follow major roads west of Highway 16, and University Way and Tyner Boulevard. This change places the entire College Heights neighbourhood in Prince George-Valemount.

Table 9: Proposed electoral districts population and area – North Region[5]

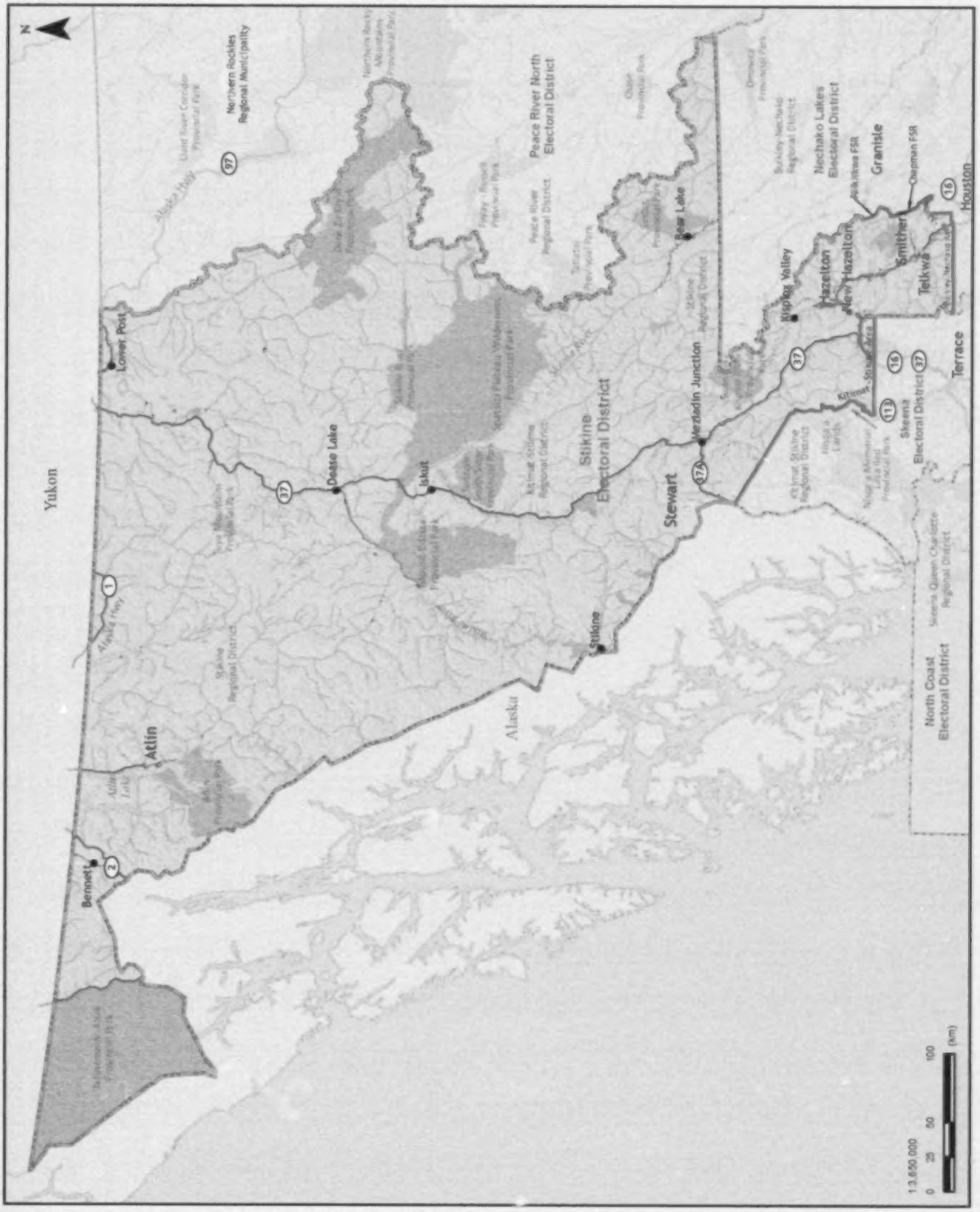
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Stikine	20,616	-61.2	196,484
Peace River North	43,263	-18.6	175,813
Peace River South	28,104	-47.1	30,364
Prince George-Valemount	48,267	-9.1	31,467
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,894	-11.7	20,511
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-47.9	73,797
Skeena	30,240	-43.1	31,610
North Coast	22,382	-57.9	143,864

5 All population figures in this report are as of May 10, 2014. All population deviations are based on a provincial population of 4,621,394, in the proposed 87 electoral districts and an electoral quotient of 53,119.

North Region



Stikine


N
Yukon
Alaska
Northern Rockies Regional Municipality
Peace River North Electoral District
Peace River Regional District
Stikine Electoral District
Stikine Regional District
Nechako Lakes Electoral District
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District
North Coast Electoral District
Skeena Queen Charlotte Regional District
Skeena Electoral District
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District
Kitimat-Stikine
Alaska Hwy
Liard River Corridor Provincial Park
Northern Rockies Provincial Park
Muncho Lake Provincial Park
Stone Mountain Provincial Park
Mount Edziza Provincial Park
Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park
Tatlatui Provincial Park
Ootsa Provincial Park
Omineca Provincial Park
Tatshenshini-Alsek Provincial Park
Atlin Provincial Park
Atlin Lake
Stikine River
Nisga'a Memorial Lava Bed Provincial Park
Nisga'a Lands
Kitimat-Stikine
Kitimat
Kitwanga
Kispiox Valley
Hazelton
New Hazelton
Smithers
Telkwa
Granisle
Houston
Terrace
Chapman FSR
Nilkitkwa FSR
Lower Post
Dease Lake
Iskut
Stewart
Stikine
Atlin
Bennett
Meziadin Junction
Bear Lake
97
37
37A
16
17
1
2
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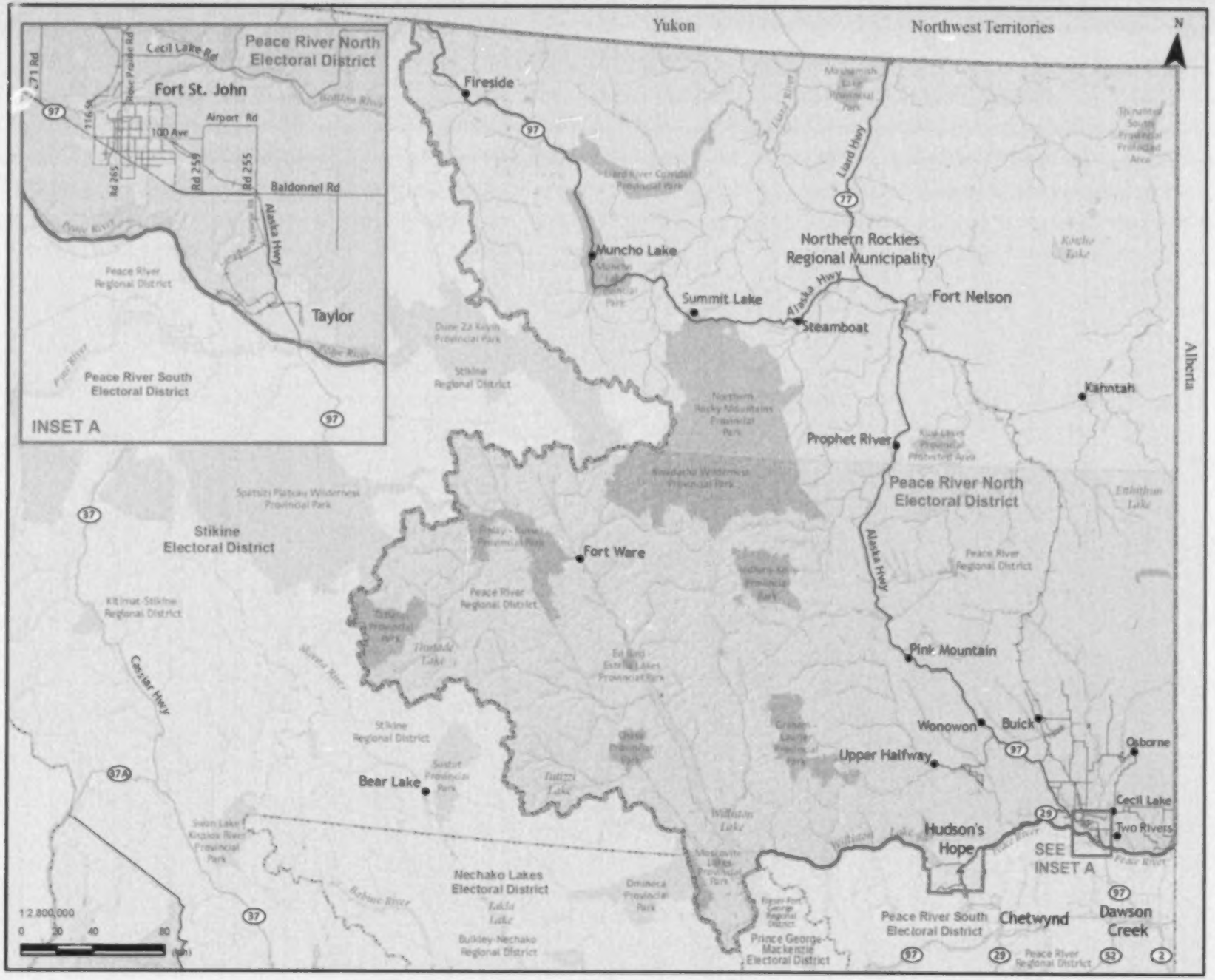
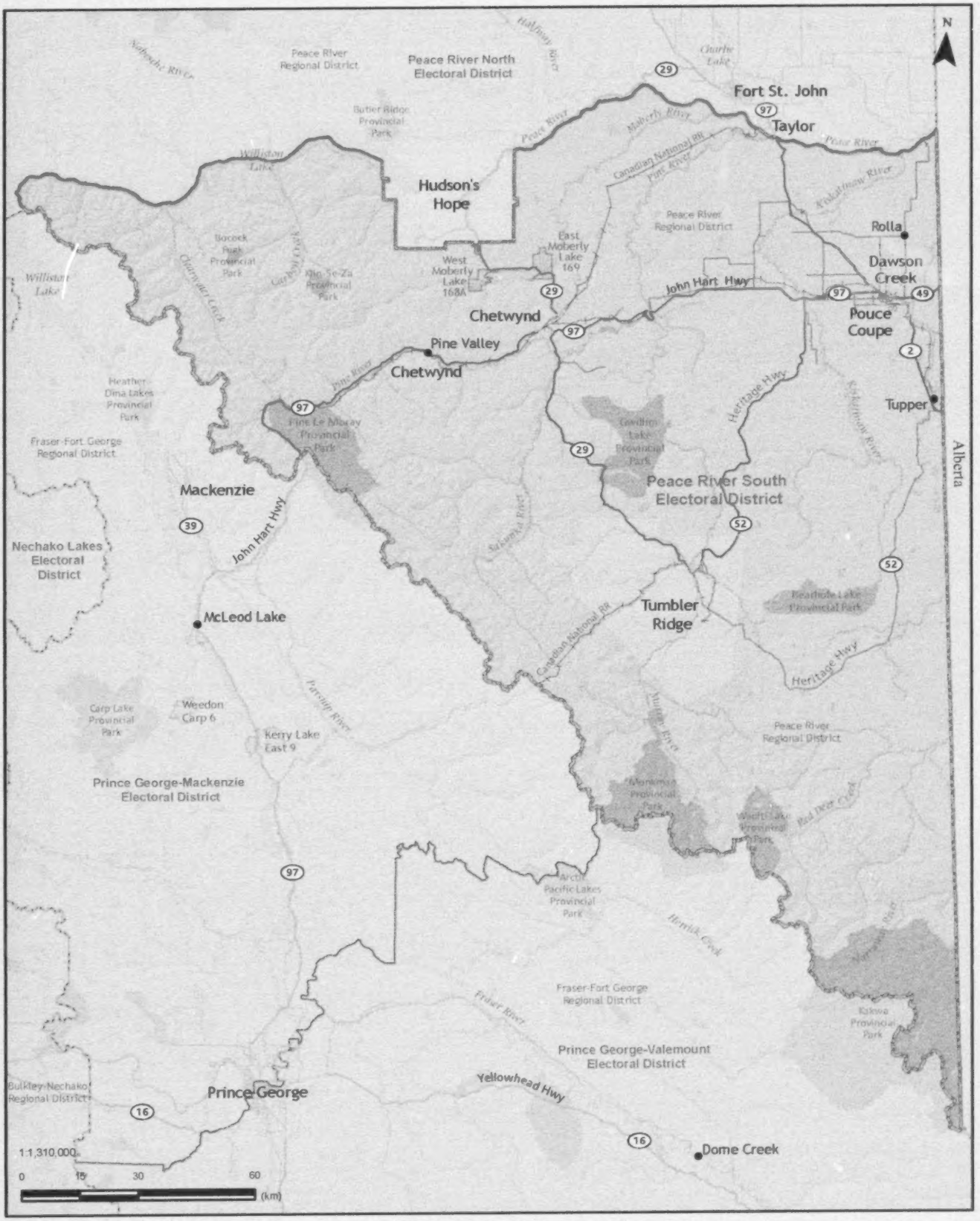
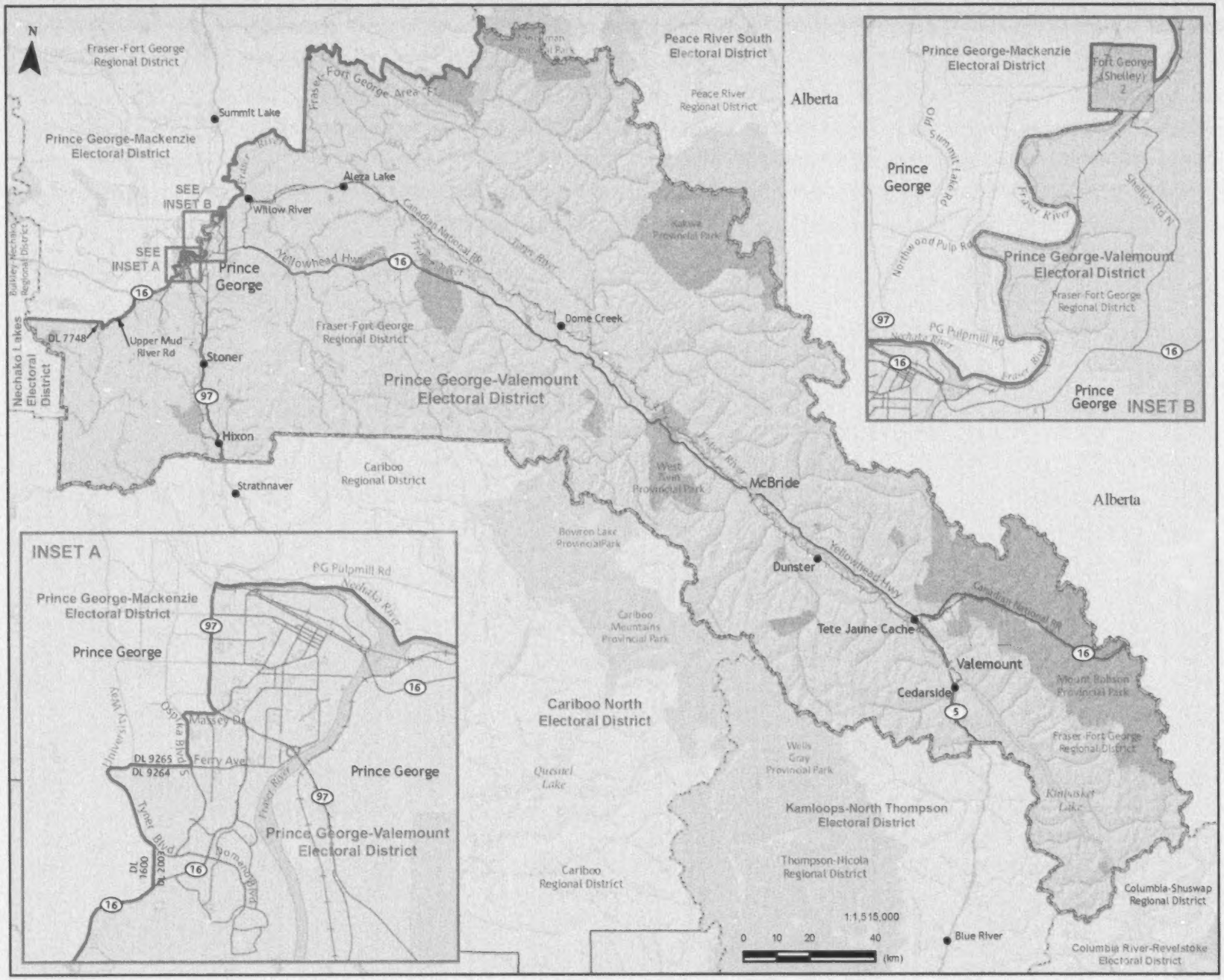
0 25 50 100 (km)


Yukon
Northwest Territories
N
Alberta
Fireside
Muncho Lake
Summit Lake
Steamboat
Fort Nelson
Northern Rockies Regional Municipality
Liard Hwy
Alaska Hwy
Kahntah
Prophet River
Peace River North Electoral District
Fort Ware
Stikine Electoral District
Pink Mountain
Wonowon
Buick
Upper Halfway
Osborne
Cecil Lake
Two Rivers
Hudson's Hope
SEE INSET A
Bear Lake
Nechako Lakes Electoral District
Peace River South Electoral District
Chetwynd
Dawson Creek
Prince George-Mackenzie Electoral District
Cassiar Hwy
Peace River Regional District
Stikine Regional District
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District
1:2,800,000
0 20 40 80 (km)
INSET A
Fort St. John
Cecil Lake Rd
Airport Rd
100 Ave
Baldonnel Rd
Rd 271
Rd 265
Rd 259
Rd 255
Taylor
Peace River South Electoral District
Peace River North Electoral District
Alaska Hwy
Peace River Regional District

Peace River South

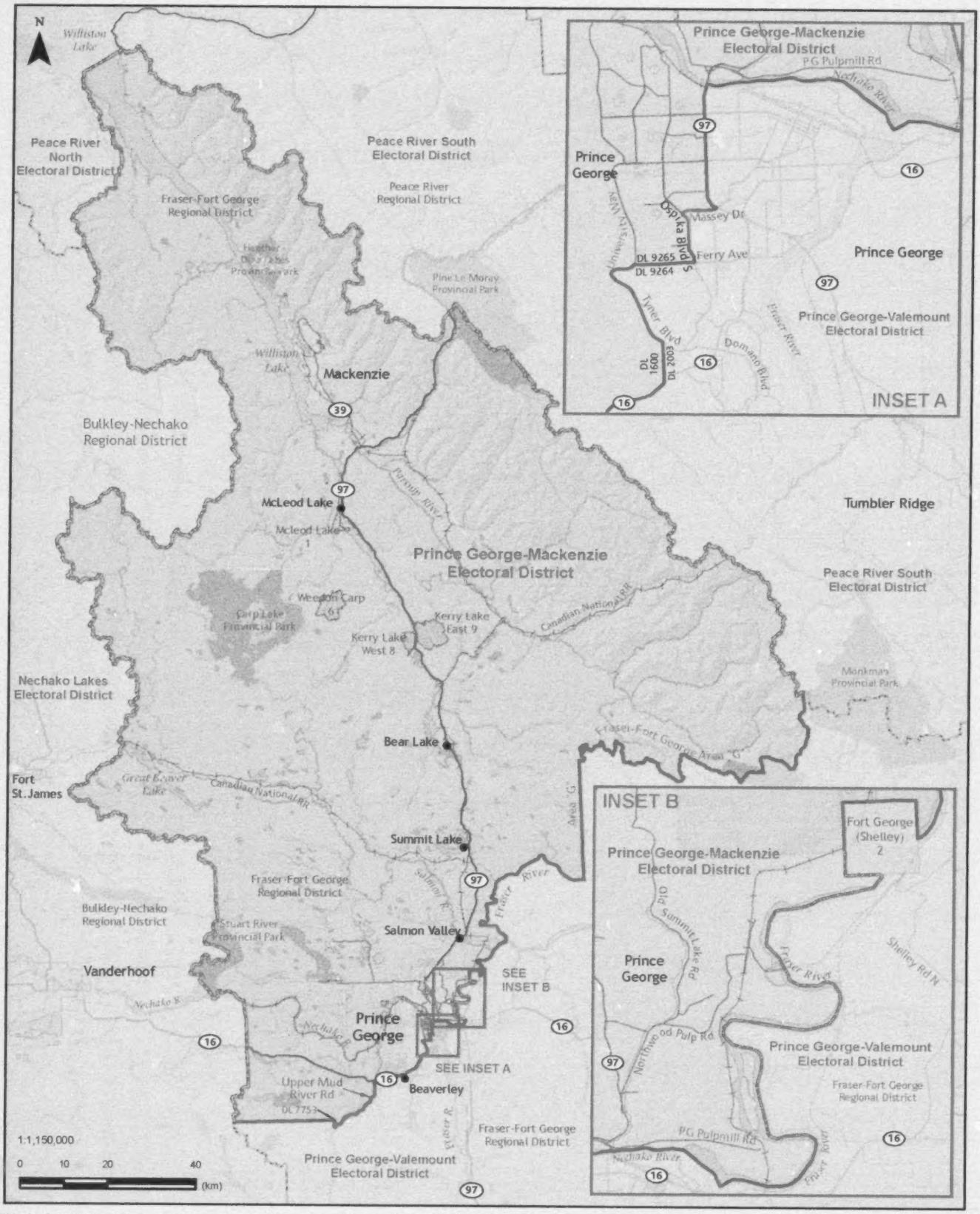




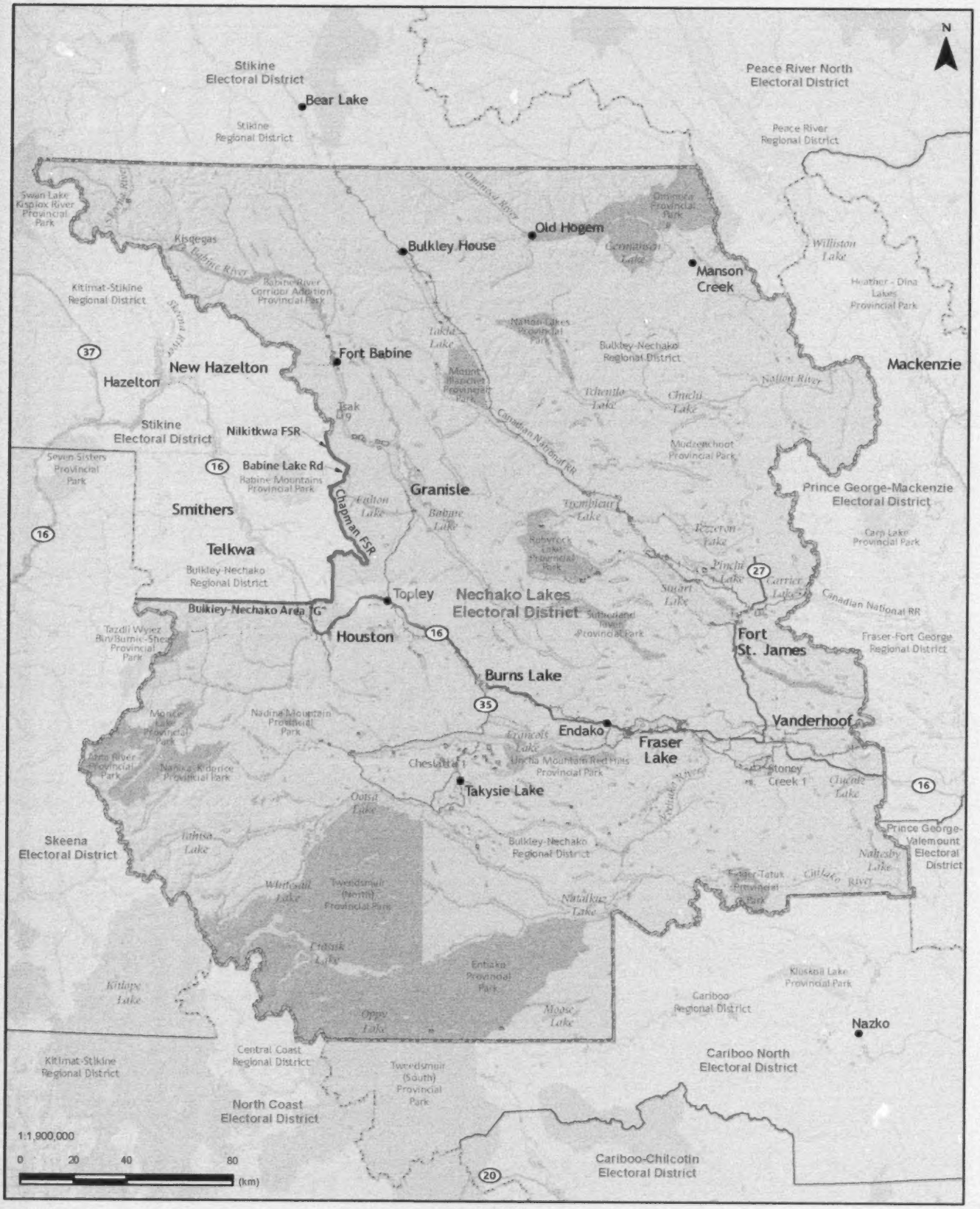
Proposals – North Region

Prince George-Valemount

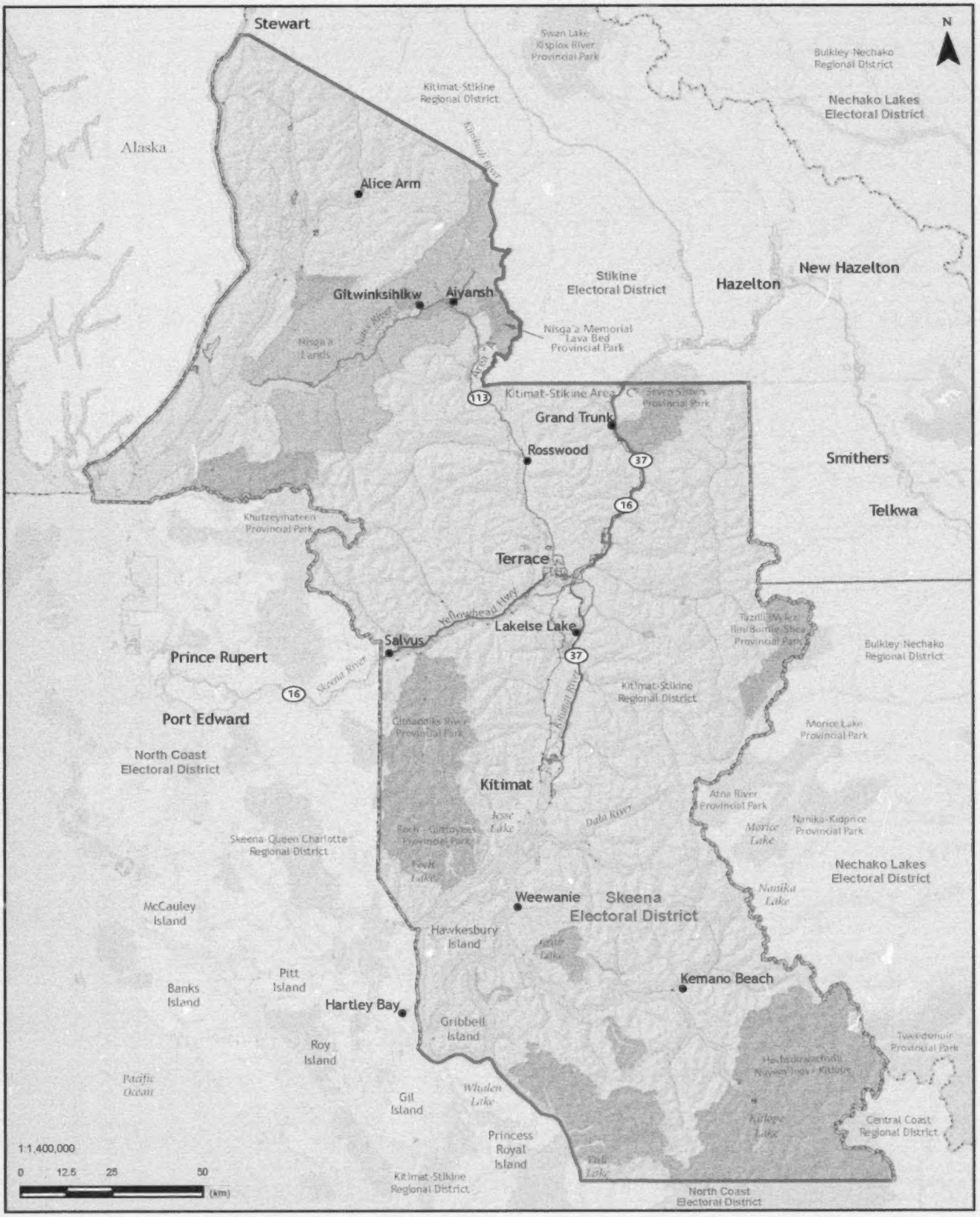
Prince George-Mackenzie

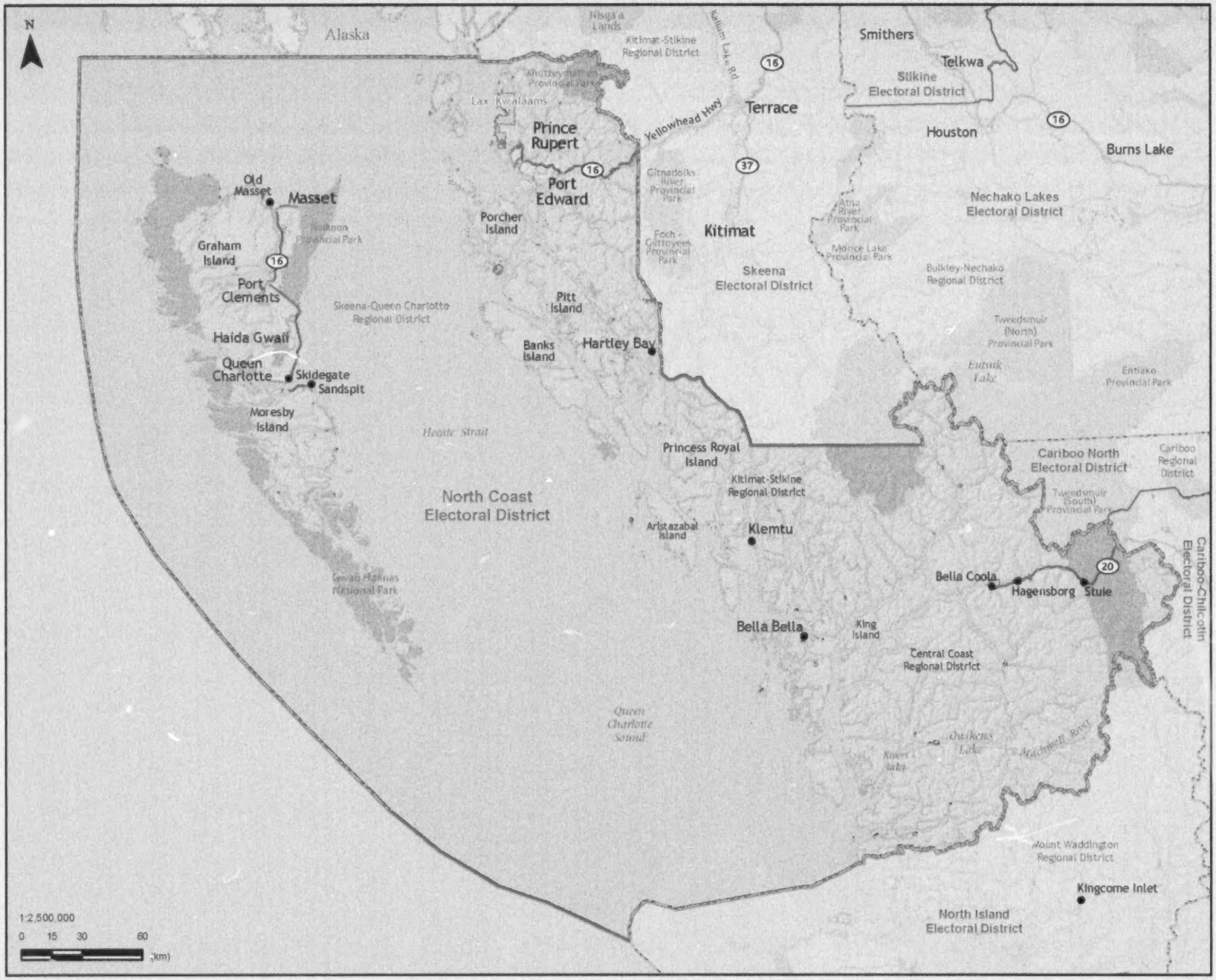


Nechako Lakes



Skeena


Stewart
Alaska
Alice Arm
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District
Kinaskan Lake Provincial Park
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District
Nechako Lakes Electoral District
Stikine Electoral District
Hazelton
New Hazelton
Smithers
Telkwa
Giwinksihlkw
Aiyansh
Nisga'a Lands
Nisga'a Memorial Lava Bed Provincial Park
Kitimat-Stikine Area
Grand Trunk
Rosswood
37
16
113
Khutzeymateen Provincial Park
Terrace
Yellowhead Hwy
Lakelse Lake
Salvus
Prince Rupert
Skeena River
Port Edward
North Coast Electoral District
Kitimat
Kitimat River
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District
Morice Lake Provincial Park
Atna River Provincial Park
Nanika-Kidprice Provincial Park
Nechako Lakes Electoral District
Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District
Weewanie
Skeena Electoral District
Hawkesbury Island
McCauley Island
Banks Island
Pitt Island
Hartley Bay
Gribbell Island
Roy Island
Pacific Ocean
Gil Island
Whaleen Lake
Princess Royal Island
Kemano Beach
Twin Islands Provincial Park
Central Coast Regional District
North Coast Electoral District
1:1,400,000
0 12.5 25 50 (km)



Proposals – North Region

North Coast

Proposals – North Region

Cariboo-Thompson Region

The Cariboo-Thompson is the second of the three defined regions which cannot have the number of electoral districts reduced. It includes the districts of Cariboo North, Cariboo-Chilcotin, Kamloops-North Thompson, Kamloops-South Thompson, and Fraser-Nicola. It shares many of the accessibility challenges seen in the North Region. While the Cariboo-Thompson Region contains the City of Kamloops, a dense urban centre with a high rate of growth, it also contains many smaller and slower growing towns and rural communities spread across a very large geographic area.

The residents of this region who provided input to the commission were largely seeking little to no change. We heard that the current configuration of districts makes sense and respects the transportation and communication linkages that exist between like-minded communities in this region.

We propose no change to Kamloops-North Thompson, small changes to Cariboo North, Cariboo-Chilcotin and Kamloops-South Thompson, and substantial changes to Fraser-Nicola.

Williams Lake

Williams Lake is one of the major urban centres of the Cariboo area (the other being Quesnel) and is located on the border between the Cariboo North and Cariboo-Chilcotin electoral districts. While Williams Lake is largely within the Cariboo-Chilcotin electoral district, the existing boundary follows Highway 97 through the city resulting in a small portion of the city on the north east side of the highway being in the Cariboo North electoral district. We heard from the public that it would be logical from a community of interest perspective to reunite Williams Lake in a single electoral district. We were therefore persuaded that this community of interest should exist in one electoral district.

The community of 150 Mile House and the Sugar Cane Reserve belonging to the T'exelcemc (Williams Lake Band) are located just east of the City of Williams Lake, but are on the other side of the boundary between Cariboo-Chilcotin and Cariboo North. We decided that the Sugar Cane Reserve and 150 Mile House should be located within the same electoral district as the City of Williams Lake.

By following the municipality boundary and part of the Cariboo Electoral Area D boundary we were able to unite the entire City of Williams Lake, the airport, and all of the reserves of the T'exelcemc in Cariboo-Chilcotin with the exception of the Tillion Reserve west of Williams Lake. We deviated from the Cariboo Electoral Area D boundary in order to include the community of 150 Mile House.

Kamloops area

We have made some alterations to the boundary between Kamloops-South Thompson and Fraser-Nicola south of Knutsford to include more of the community around Knutsford in the Kamloops-South Thompson electoral district. This change respects the stronger ties the residents in this community have to Kamloops than to Merritt which is much farther south. The change also provides more effective representation to the community between Campbell Creek and Thompson-Nicola Regional District Electoral Area J, approximately 5km south of the Kamloops municipal border.

Hope

The placement of Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities was widely discussed in the public input. Hope has historically been included in what was known for many years as the Yale-Lillooet electoral district, but was moved into a Fraser Valley electoral district in 2008. In both the first and the second rounds of public input, presenters and online submitters alike debated whether these communities had stronger ties to the Fraser Valley or the Cariboo-Thompson.

Those in favour of Hope remaining in a Fraser Valley electoral district pointed to their inclusion in the Fraser Valley Regional District and Hope's relationship with Chilliwack as the regional hub where citizens do their shopping and receive services. Those in favour of Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities returning to the Cariboo-Thompson highlighted the differences between the urbanizing, high growth, agricultural-based Fraser Valley and the more rural, resource and tourism-focused Cariboo-Thompson. They argued these communities were more closely matched to the character of the Cariboo-Thompson. In the first round of public input a majority of the comments favoured Hope's inclusion in a Cariboo-Thompson Region electoral district. Submissions in response to our preliminary proposals were split as to the appropriate placement of Hope and the Fraser Canyon. We believe that the residents of Hope and the Fraser Canyon would be equally well represented in either the Fraser Valley or the Interior and neither side's arguments are more compelling.

Therefore, we turned our attention to the impact our decision would have on the populations of Fraser-Nicola and the surrounding electoral districts. While the population of Fraser-Nicola is beyond the ordinarily allowable -25% deviation from the provincial average, the electoral district is in a defined region and permitted to deviate beyond that amount. However, to remove Hope and the Fraser Canyon from Fraser-Nicola (given our decision to place Princeton area communities in Boundary-Similkameen) would result in its deviation from the provincial average being -48.4%. We consider this deviation to be too great for an electoral district in this part of the province. Therefore, we propose an electoral district of Fraser-Nicola that includes Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities.

In the south-west, the boundary of Fraser-Nicola has been extended west largely to follow the Fraser Valley Electoral Area B boundary to include Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities. We varied from the electoral area boundary around the Lukseetsissum 9 Reserve in order to keep all of the Yale First Nation reserves in Fraser-Nicola.

Princeton

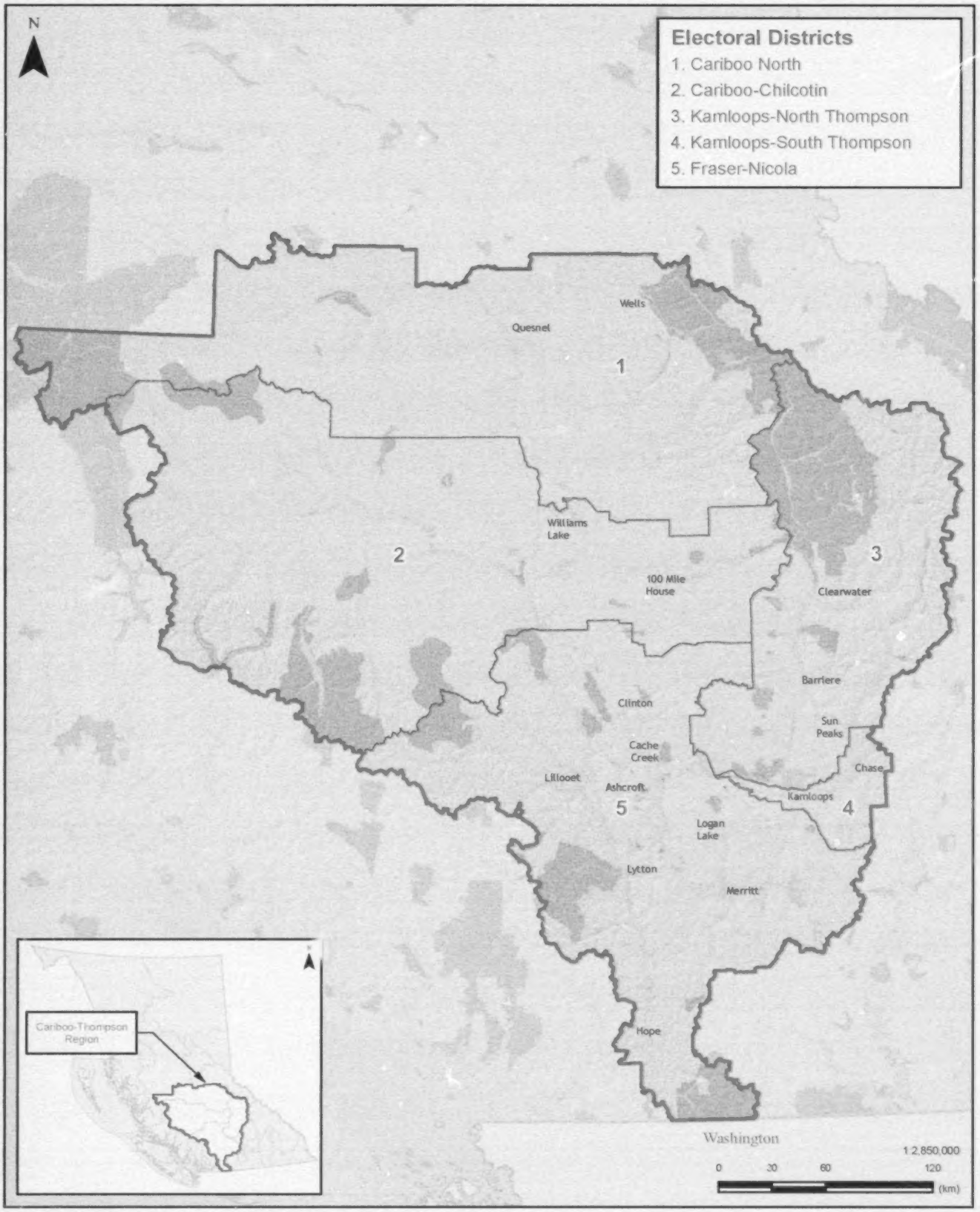
The addition of Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities to Fraser-Nicola enables us to address another issue to the south-east of Fraser-Nicola in Boundary-Similkameen. Boundary-Similkameen is more than 25% below the provincial average and is not in a defined region. Therefore, we have moved the western boundary of Boundary-Similkameen farther west so that it now includes Princeton and the small communities around it (for more on this change see page 50).

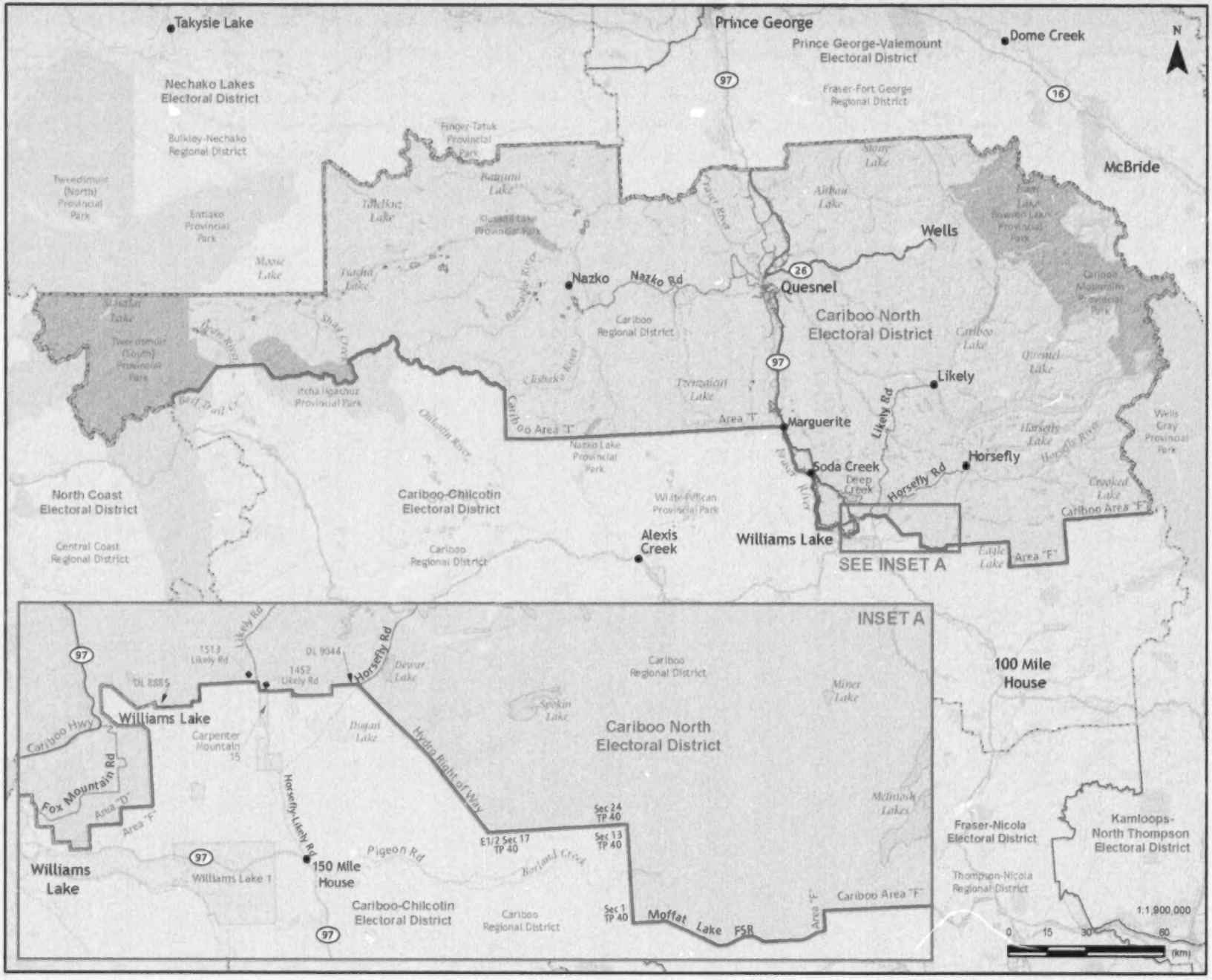
To the south-west, the Fraser-Nicola boundary now largely follows the western boundary of the Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District. It varies from this regional district boundary to follow the northern and eastern boundary of Manning Park.

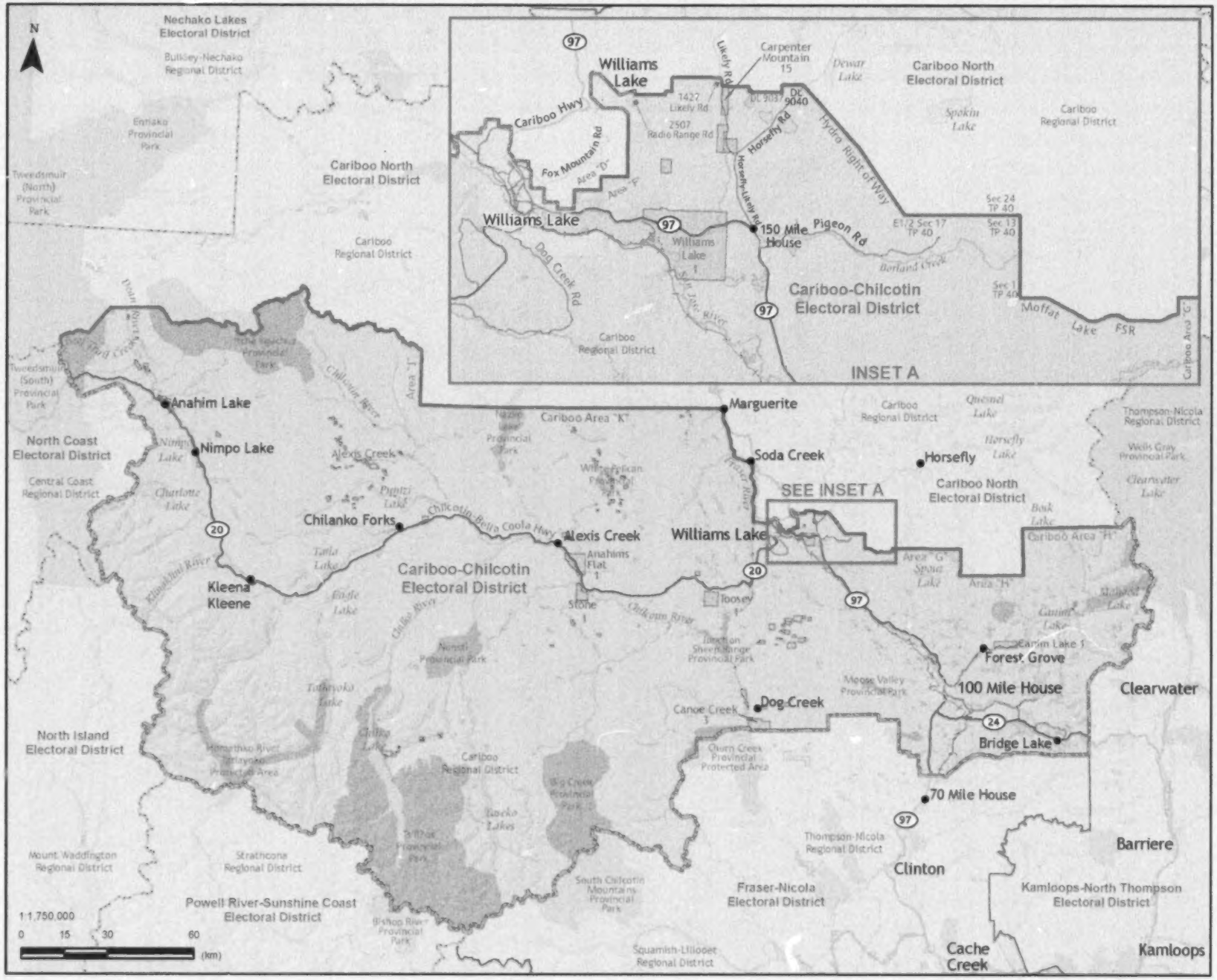
Table 10: Proposed electoral districts population and area – Cariboo-Thompson Region

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Cariboo North	29,542	-44.4	38,579
Cariboo-Chilcotin	33,520	-36.9	44,512
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	1.7	21,642
Kamloops-South Thompson	56,410	6.2	2,436
Fraser-Nicola	34,034	-35.9	34,830

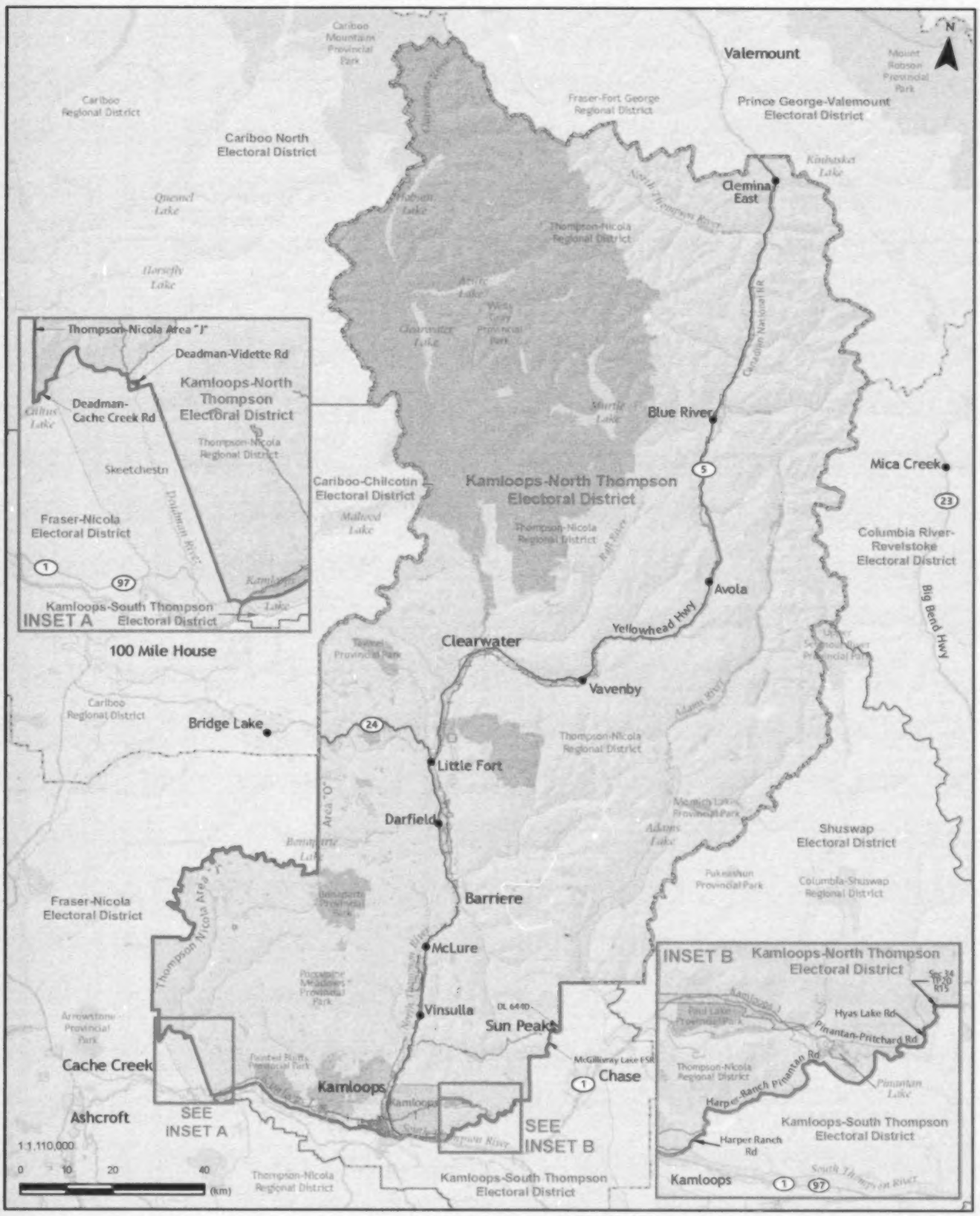
Cariboo-Thompson Region

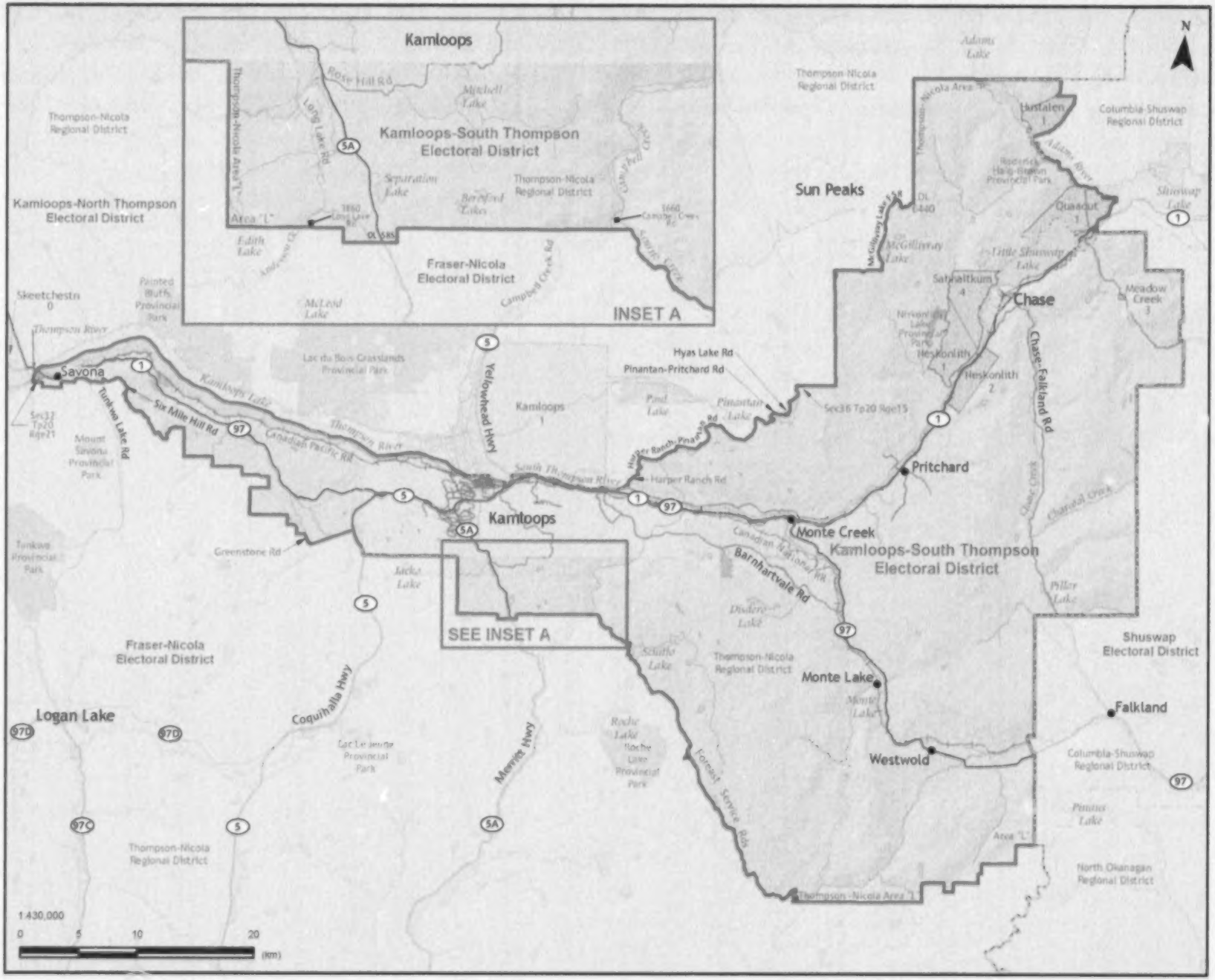



Takysie Lake
Prince George
Dome Creek
Prince George-Valemount Electoral District
Nechako Lakes Electoral District
Fraser-Fort George Regional District
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District
McBride
Wells
Nazko
Nazko Rd
Quesnel
Cariboo North Electoral District
Cariboo Regional District
Likely
Marguerite
Area "I"
Likely Rd
Soda Creek
Horsefly
Horsefly Rd
Deep Creek
North Coast Electoral District
Cariboo-Chilcotin Electoral District
Alexis Creek
Williams Lake
SEE INSET A
Cariboo Area "F"
Central Coast Regional District
Wells Gray Provincial Park
Cariboo Mountains Provincial Park
Bowron Lake Provincial Park
Itcha Ilgachuz Provincial Park
Nazko Lake Provincial Park
White Pelican Provincial Park
Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park
Entiako Provincial Park
Tweedsmuir (North) Provincial Park
Tweedsmuir (South) Provincial Park
INSET A
100 Mile House
Williams Lake
Carpenter Mountain 15
Fox Mountain Rd
Area "D"
Area "F"
Caribou Hwy
1513 Likely Rd
1452 Likely Rd
DL 9044
DL 8885
Dewar Lake
Dugan Lake
Spokin Lake
Miner Lake
McIntosh Lakes
Hydro Right of Way
Horsefly-Likely Rd
150 Mile House
Pigeon Rd
Borland Creek
Williams Lake 1
Sec 24 TP 40
Sec 13 TP 40
E1/2 Sec 17 TP 40
Sec 1 TP 40
Moffat Lake FSR
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Karnloops-North Thompson Electoral District
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
1:1,900,000
0 15 30 60 (km)


N
Nechako Lakes Electoral District
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District
Entiako Provincial Park
Tweedsmuir (North) Provincial Park
Cariboo North Electoral District
Cariboo Regional District
Tweedsmuir (South) Provincial Park
Anahim Lake
Nimpo Lake
North Coast Electoral District
Central Coast Regional District
Chilanko Forks
Alexis Creek
Kleena Kleene
Cariboo-Chilcotin Electoral District
Chilcotin-Bella Coola Hwy
Marguerite
Soda Creek
Williams Lake
SEE INSET A
Horsefly
Cariboo North Electoral District
Quesnel Lake
Horsefly Lake
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Wells Gray Provincial Park
Clearwater Lake
Bouchie Lake
Cariboo Area "H"
Area "G"
Spout Lake
Area "H"
Carpenter Lake 1
Forest Grove
100 Mile House
Clearwater
Dog Creek
Canoe Creek 3
Bridge Lake
70 Mile House
Barriere
Clinton
Kamloops-North Thompson Electoral District
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Kamloops
Cache Creek
North Island Electoral District
Mount Waddington Regional District
Strathcona Regional District
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Toosey
Stone 1
Anahims Flat 1
Area "K"
Area "T"
Area "F"
Area "D"
Caribou Area "C"
Williams Lake
Carpenter Mountain 15
1427 Likely Rd
2507 Radio Range Rd
Likely Rd
Cariboo Hwy
Fox Mountain Rd
Horsefly Rd
Horsefly-Likely Rd
Hydro Right of Way
Dewar Lake
Spokin Lake
DL 9037
DL 9040
Dog Creek Rd
Fraser River
Pigeon Rd
150 Mile House
Sec 24 TP 40
E1/2 Sec 17 TP 40
Sec 13 TP 40
Sec 1 TP 40
Borland Creek
Moffat Lake FSR
INSET A
1:1,750,000
0 15 30 60
(km)

Kamloops-North Thompson




Kamloops
Kamloops-South Thompson Electoral District
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
INSET A
Kamloops-North Thompson Electoral District
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District
Sun Peaks
Chase
Sayona
Kamloops
Pritchard
Monte Creek
Kamloops-South Thompson Electoral District
SEE INSET A
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Shuswap Electoral District
Monte Lake
Falkland
Westwold
Logan Lake
Hyas Lake Rd
Pinantan-Pritchard Rd
Harper Ranch Rd
Barnhartvale Rd
Six Mile Hill Rd
Yellowhead Hwy
Coquihalla Hwy
Merritt Hwy
Chase-Falkland Rd
Tunkwa Lake Rd
Greenstone Rd
Skeetchestn 0
Heskonlith 1
Heskonlith 2
Satsaltkum 4
Meadow Creek 3
Quaaout 1
Harstaken 1
Area "L"
North Okanagan Regional District
1:430,000
0 5 10 20
(km)
N

N
Kamloops
Kamloops-South Thompson Electoral District
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Thompson-Nicola Area "I"
Area "J"
INSET A
Caribou Regional District
Cariboo-Chilcotin Electoral District
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Dog Creek
Canoe Creek
Big Bar Creek
Clinton
Barriere
Kamloops-North Thompson Electoral District
Gold Bridge
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Squamish-Lillooet Area "A"
Lillooet
Ashcroft
Kamloops
Kamloops-South Thompson Electoral District
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
SEE INSET A
Pemberton Meadows
Pemberton
Logan Lake
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky Electoral District
Whistler
Lytton
Merritt
Boston Bar
Fraser Valley Area "A"
Shuswap Electoral District
Kelowna West Electoral District
Boundary-Similkameen Electoral District
Penticton Electoral District
Tulameen
Princeton
Yale
Hope
Kent
SEE INSET B
Sunshine Valley
Chilliwack-Kent Electoral District
INSET B
Chawathil
Trans-Canada Hwy
Peters
Peters 1A
Seabird Island
1:1,600,000
Washington
0 15 30 60
(km)

Columbia-Kootenay Region

The third defined region, Columbia-Kootenay, is a geographically large but sparsely populated area made up of four electoral districts: Columbia River-Revelstoke, Kootenay East, Nelson-Creston and Kootenay West. We were told that the electoral districts in this region are difficult to represent due to the physical geography and challenging transportation routes. Despite these challenges, submissions and presentations from residents of the Columbia-Kootenay Region indicated satisfaction with their electoral boundaries and the majority indicated there are no significant changes that could provide more effective representation.

We propose no changes to the Kootenay West or Nelson-Creston electoral districts and a small change to the boundary between Kootenay East and Columbia River-Revelstoke.

Cranbrook area

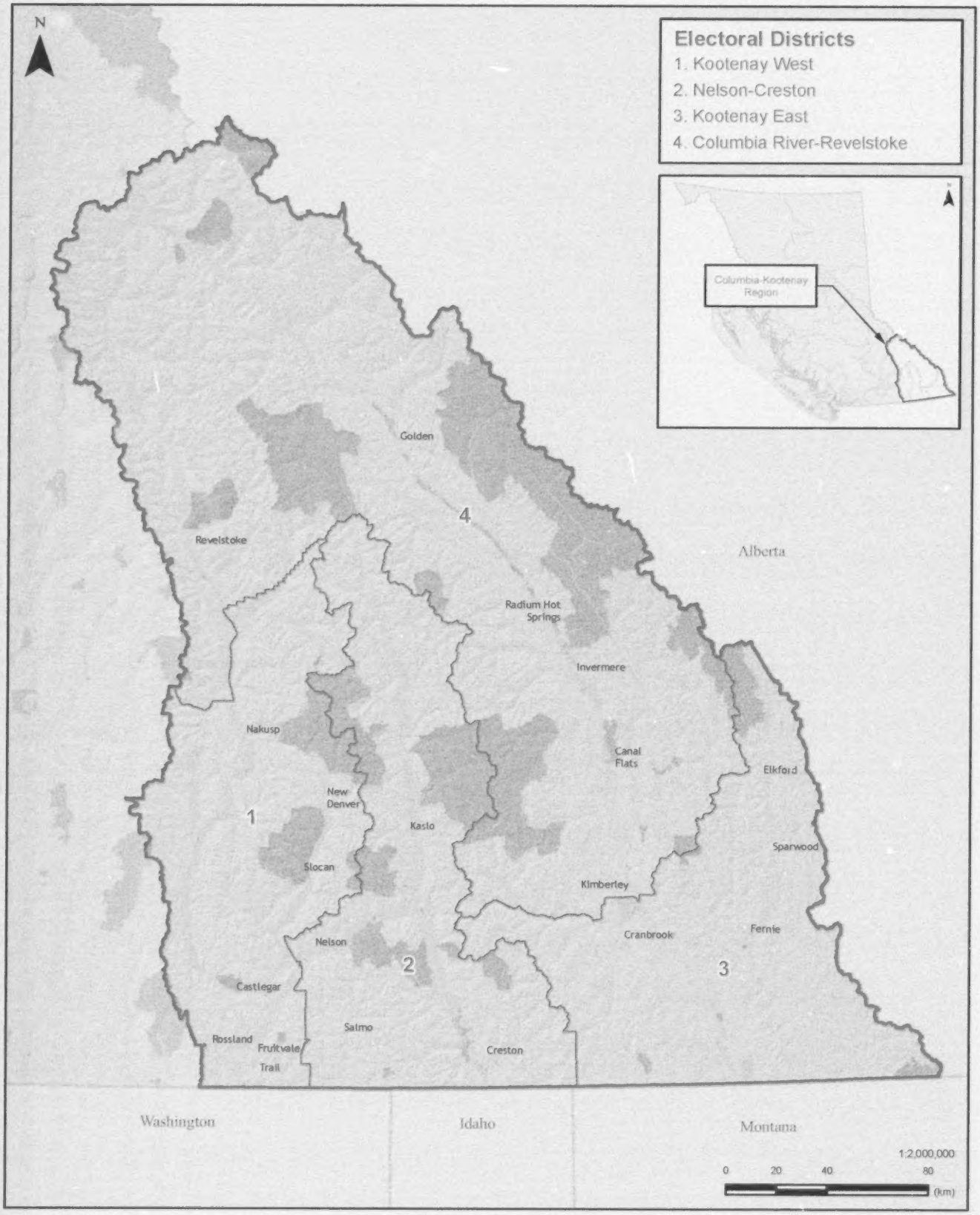
At our public hearing in Cranbrook we were advised of an issue south-east of Cranbrook where the use of the Kootenay River as an electoral district boundary has the consequence of placing communities on either side of the river, that have close ties to one another and to Cranbrook, in different electoral districts. Students from Wardner on the west bank and Bull River and Fort Steele on the east bank attend the same secondary school in Cranbrook. However, as Wardner is in Kootenay East and Bull River and Fort Steele are in Columbia River-Revelstoke, young people in this area don't have a shared political experience and some believed this led them to be less likely to participate in the electoral process.

By using the East Kootenay Regional District Electoral Area C and the Southeast Kootenay School District boundary in this area, these towns east of Cranbrook will be included in the same electoral district (Kootenay East). Following this boundary also has the effect of moving a small area around the airport west of Cranbrook into Kootenay East from Columbia River-Revelstoke. While these changes affect only a small number of people, it will provide more effective representation for these communities.

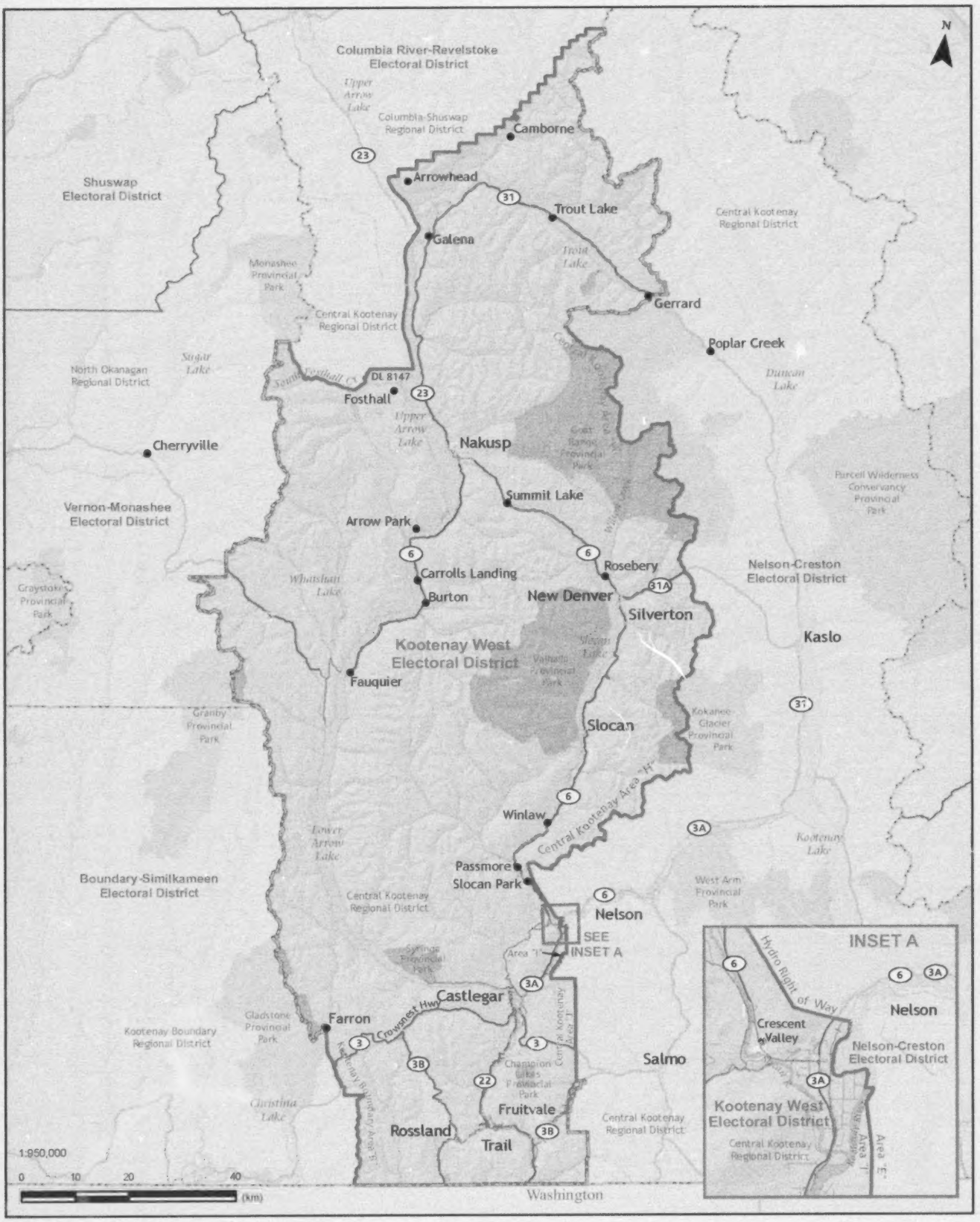
Table 11: Proposed electoral districts population and area – Columbia-Kootenay Region

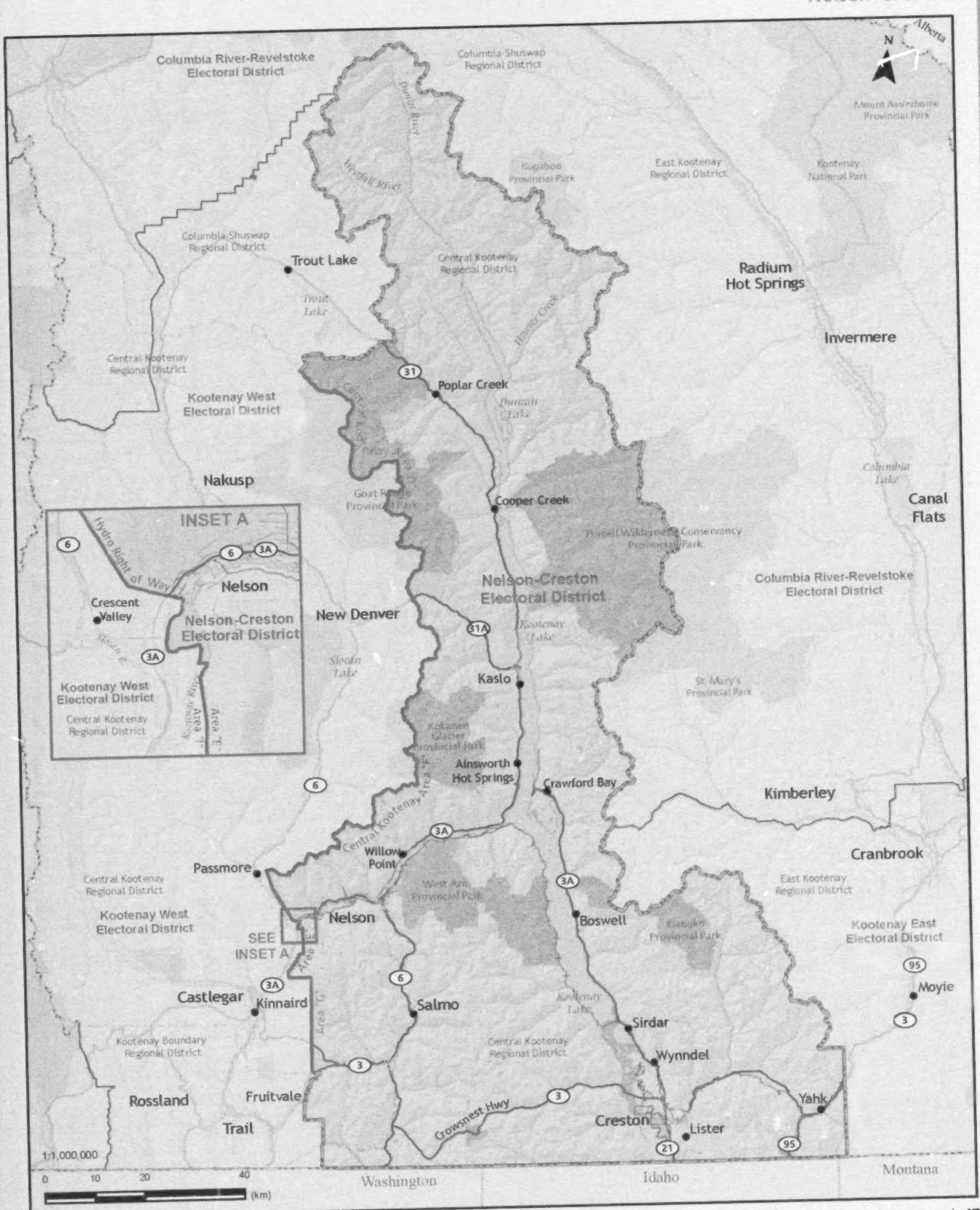
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Kootenay West	41,302	-22.2	12,009
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-30.5	13,212
Kootenay East	40,466	-23.8	13,210
Columbia River-Revelstoke	31,907	-39.9	37,704

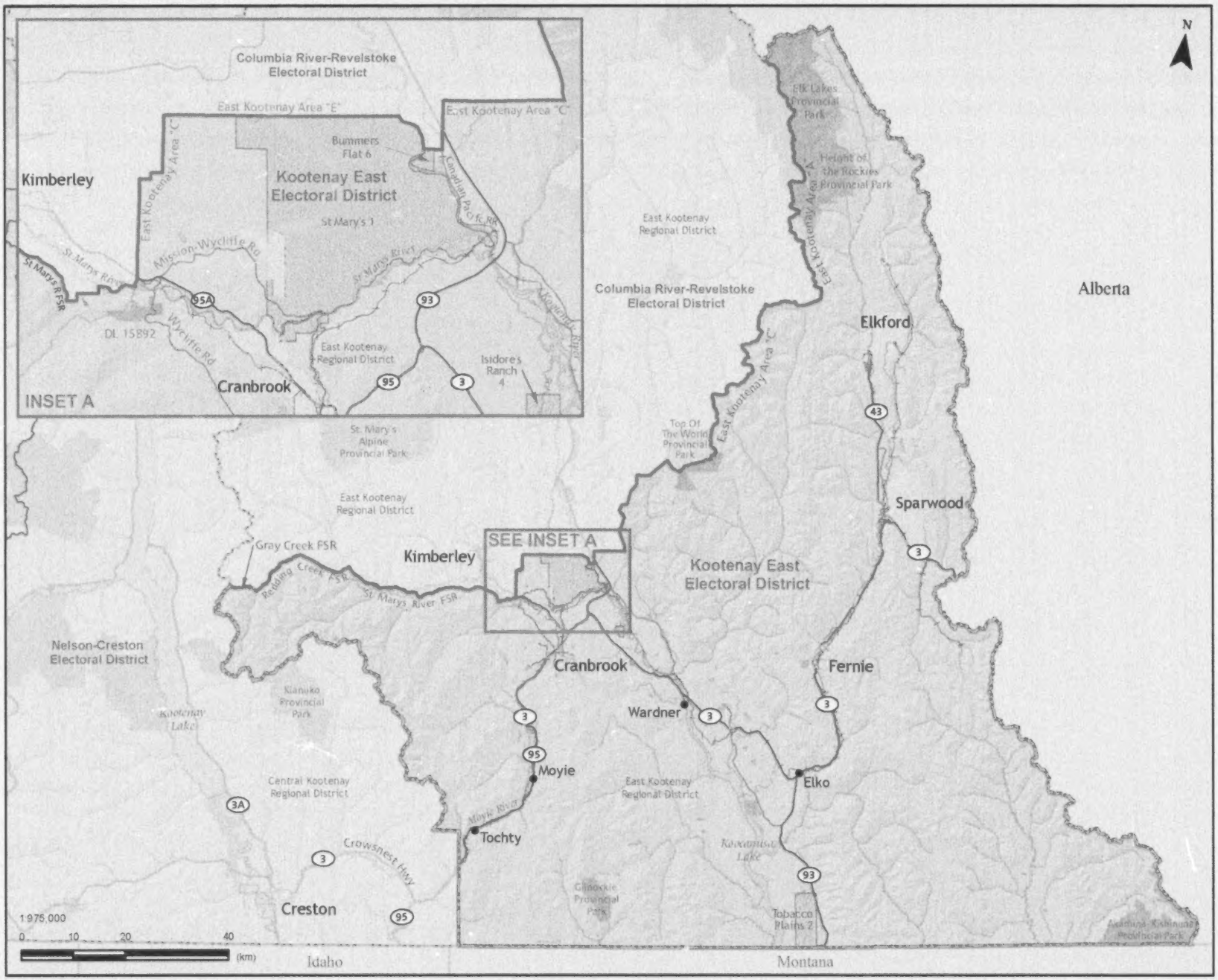
Columbia-Kootenay Region

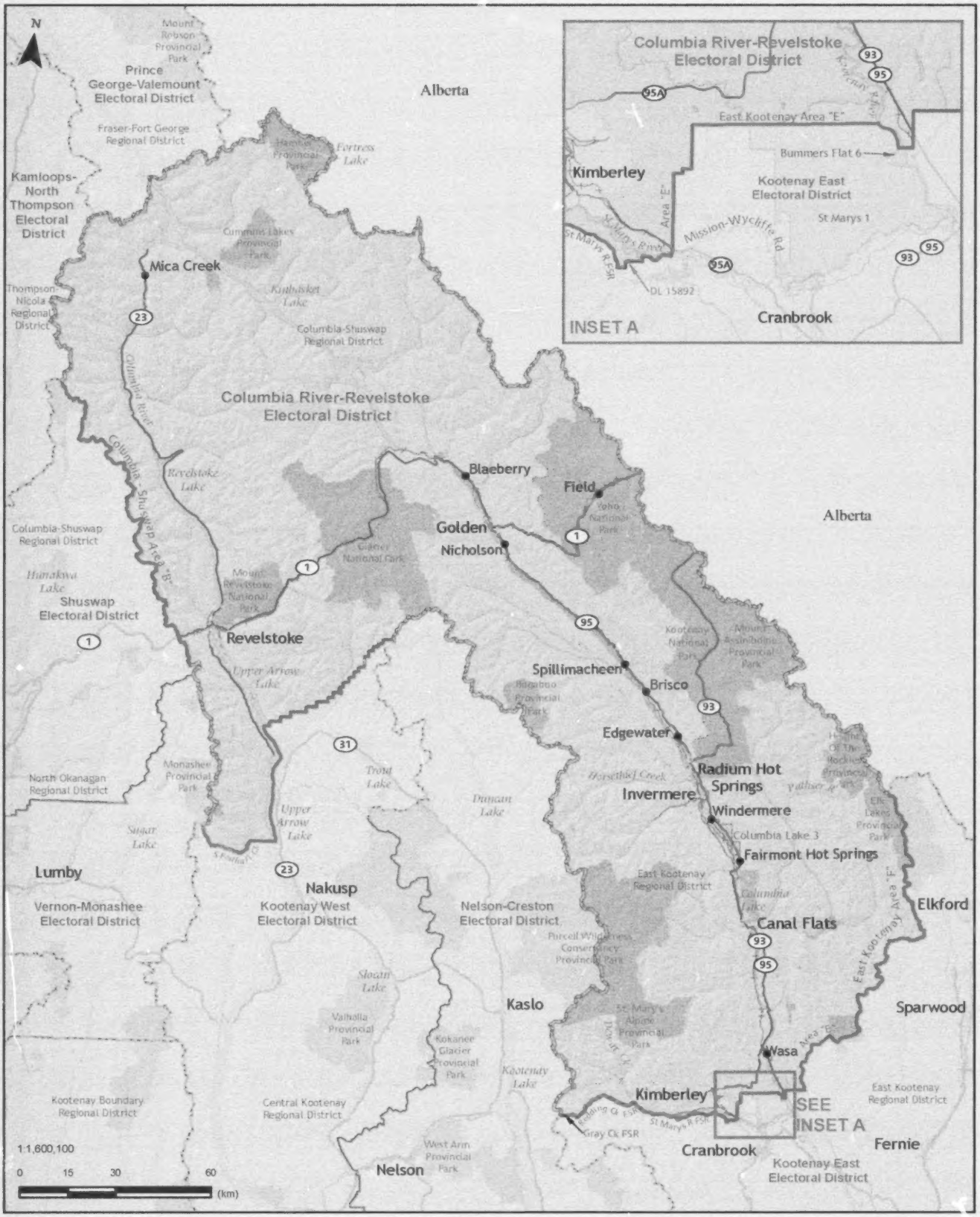


Kootenay West




Columbia River-Revelstoke Electoral District
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District
Alberta
N
Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park
Duncan River
Lardeau River
Bugaboo Provincial Park
East Kootenay Regional District
Kootenay National Park
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District
Trout Lake
Central Kootenay Regional District
Radium Hot Springs
Trout Lake
Hamer Creek
Invermere
Central Kootenay Regional District
31
Poplar Creek
Duncan Lake
Kootenay West Electoral District
Gray Creek
Nakusp
Columbia Lake
Goat Range Provincial Park
Cooper Creek
Canal Flats
Purcell Wilderness Conservancy Provincial Park
INSET A
Hydro Right of Way
6
3A
Nelson
Crescent Valley
Nelson-Creston Electoral District
Columbia River-Revelstoke Electoral District
New Denver
31A
Kootenay Lake
Slocan R.
Slocan Lake
Kaslo
Kootenay West Electoral District
Central Kootenay Regional District
Kootenay River
Area "I"
Area "E"
St. Mary's Provincial Park
Kokanee Glacier Provincial Park
Ainsworth Hot Springs
Crawford Bay
Kimberley
Central Kootenay Area "F"
Willow Point
Cranbrook
Passmore
Central Kootenay Regional District
West Arm Provincial Park
East Kootenay Regional District
Kootenay West Electoral District
Nelson
Boswell
SEE INSET A
Area "H"
Kianuko Provincial Park
Kootenay East Electoral District
95
Moyie
Castlegar
Kinnaird
Area "G"
Salmo
Kootenay Lake
Sirdar
3
Kootenay Boundary Regional District
Central Kootenay Regional District
Wynndel
Rossland
Fruitvale
Yahk
Crowsnest Hwy
Creston
Lister
Trail
21
1:1,000,000
0 10 20 40
(km)
Washington
Idaho
Montana


Columbia River-Revelstoke Electoral District
East Kootenay Area "E"
East Kootenay Area "C"
Bummers Flat 6
Kootenay East Electoral District
Kimberley
St Mary's 1
East Kootenay Area "C"
Canadian Pacific RR
St Mary's R FSR
Mission-Wycliffe Rd
St Mary's River
95A
93
Wycliffe Rd
DL 15892
East Kootenay Regional District
Isidore's Ranch 4
Cranbrook
95
3
INSET A
N
Elk Lakes Provincial Park
Height of the Rockies Provincial Park
East Kootenay Regional District
East Kootenay Area "C"
Columbia River-Revelstoke Electoral District
Alberta
Elkford
43
Top Of The World Provincial Park
St. Mary's Alpine Provincial Park
East Kootenay Regional District
Sparwood
3
Gray Creek FSR
Kimberley
SEE INSET A
Kootenay East Electoral District
Redding Creek FSR
St Mary's River FSR
Nelson-Creston Electoral District
Cranbrook
Fernie
Kianuko Provincial Park
Kootenay Lake
Wardner
3
95
Moyie
Elko
Central Kootenay Regional District
East Kootenay Regional District
3A
Moyie River
Tochty
Crowsnest Hwy
3
Kikomun Creek Provincial Park
93
Creston
95
Tobacco Plains 2
1:975,000
0 10 20 40
(km)
Idaho
Montana


N
Columbia River-Revelstoke Electoral District
INSET A
Prince George-Valemount Electoral District
Alberta
Kamloops-North Thompson Electoral District
Mica Creek
Columbia River-Revelstoke Electoral District
Blaeberry
Field
Golden
Nicholson
Revelstoke
Shuswap Electoral District
Spillimacheen
Brisco
Edgewater
Radium Hot Springs
Invermere
Windermere
Fairmont Hot Springs
Canal Flats
Elkford
Sparwood
Lumby
Vernon-Monashee Electoral District
Nakusp
Kootenay West Electoral District
Nelson-Creston Electoral District
Kaslo
Wasa
Kimberley
Cranbrook
Fernie
Nelson
Kootenay East Electoral District
SEE INSET A
East Kootenay Area "E"
Bummers Flat 6
St Marys 1
DL 15892
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District
North Okanagan Regional District
East Kootenay Regional District
Kootenay Boundary Regional District
Central Kootenay Regional District
1:1,600,100
0 15 30 60 (km)

Okanagan/Shuswap

The Okanagan/Shuswap area consists of both rural communities and urban, fast growing centres such as Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton. Unlike the faster growing electoral districts in the rest of the Okanagan/Shuswap, Boundary-Similkameen is expected to grow at a slower rate.

In contrast to the defined regions, the public input we received for this area was more specific to individual communities and electoral districts and varied as to the level of satisfaction with the existing boundaries.

Vernon-Monashee currently is the most populated electoral district in the Okanagan/Shuswap, whereas Shuswap's population is the second smallest of the electoral districts in the area. To better balance the population in this area, our Preliminary Report proposed to move the boundary between Vernon-Monashee and Shuswap south to include Swan Lake in the Shuswap electoral district. However, after consideration of the responses to our proposals and in consideration that the population difference in the two electoral districts is only 10%, we decided to revisit this decision and propose no change to the existing boundaries in this area.

We received more varied input for the Kelowna area. Some wanted to see substantial changes to the boundaries of these districts, including a configuration of electoral districts that more closely followed school catchment areas or did not cross Okanagan Lake, while others suggested that the current Westside-Kelowna district should include more of the downtown Kelowna area. We propose to change the name of Westside-Kelowna to Kelowna West. However, we chose not to make any changes to the boundaries of the three Kelowna area electoral districts since their populations are similar, and we were not convinced changes would achieve more effective representation.

We propose no changes to: Shuswap, Vernon-Monashee, Kelowna-Lake Country, Kelowna West, Kelowna-Mission, and Penticton.

Boundary-Similkameen

Boundary-Similkameen is rural in nature and, unlike the rest of the Okanagan/Shuswap, it does not have a major urban centre and instead is made up of many dispersed smaller communities. It is also not expected to see the same levels of growth as the rest of the Okanagan/Shuswap.

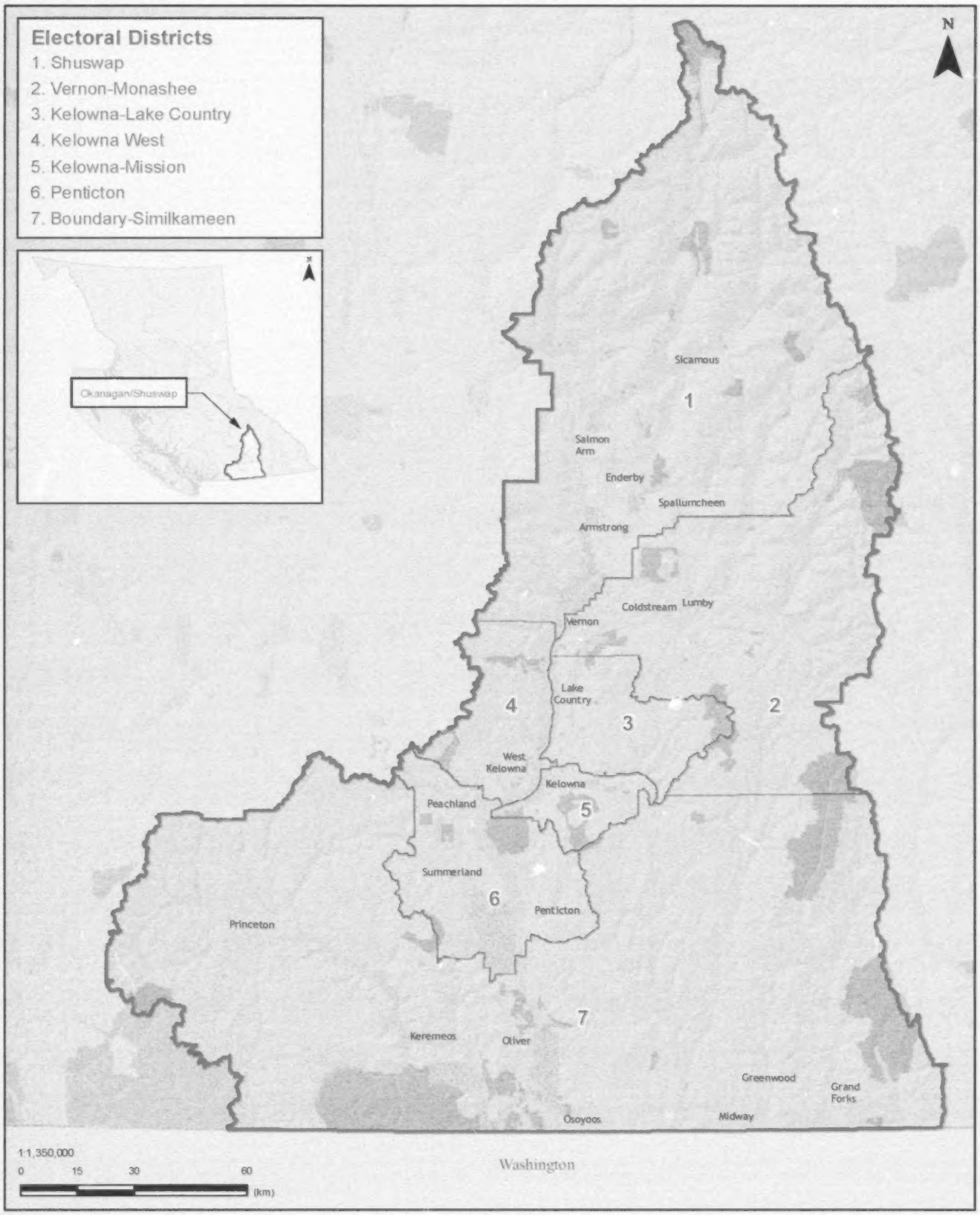
At -28.8%, Boundary-Similkameen is more than 25% under the provincial average. To bring the population of Boundary-Similkameen within +/- 25%, we chose to expand the electoral district boundaries west to include the town of Princeton and its surrounding communities. While some of the public input we received requested that Princeton stay within the Fraser-Nicola electoral district, many submitters recognized that Princeton will receive effective representation in Boundary-Similkameen (for more on changes to Fraser-Nicola see page 37).

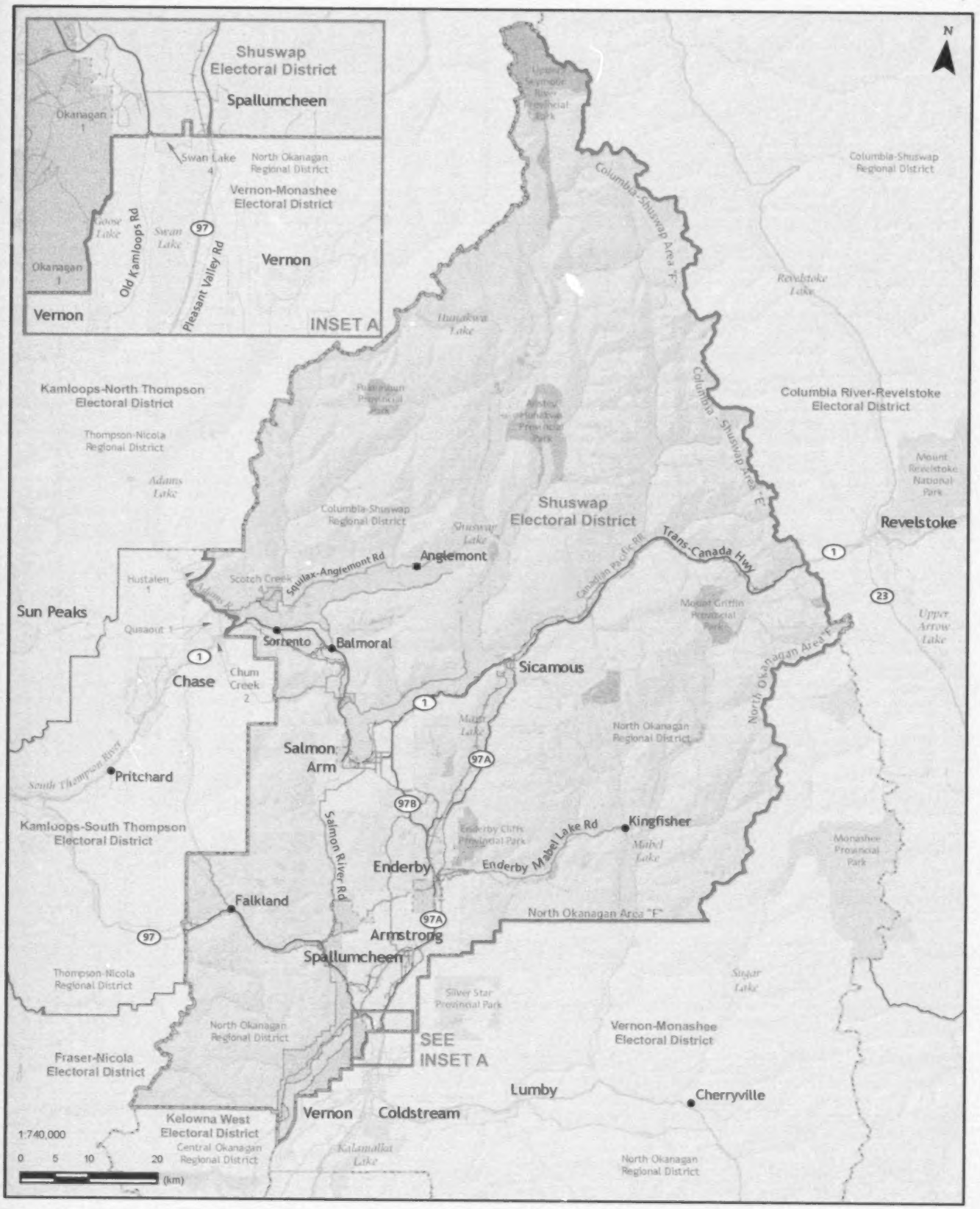
The boundary between Fraser-Nicola and Boundary-Similkameen now largely follows the western and north-western boundary of the Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District, but varies from this boundary to place Manning Park entirely within Fraser-Nicola.

Table 12: Proposed electoral districts population and area – Okanagan/Shuswap

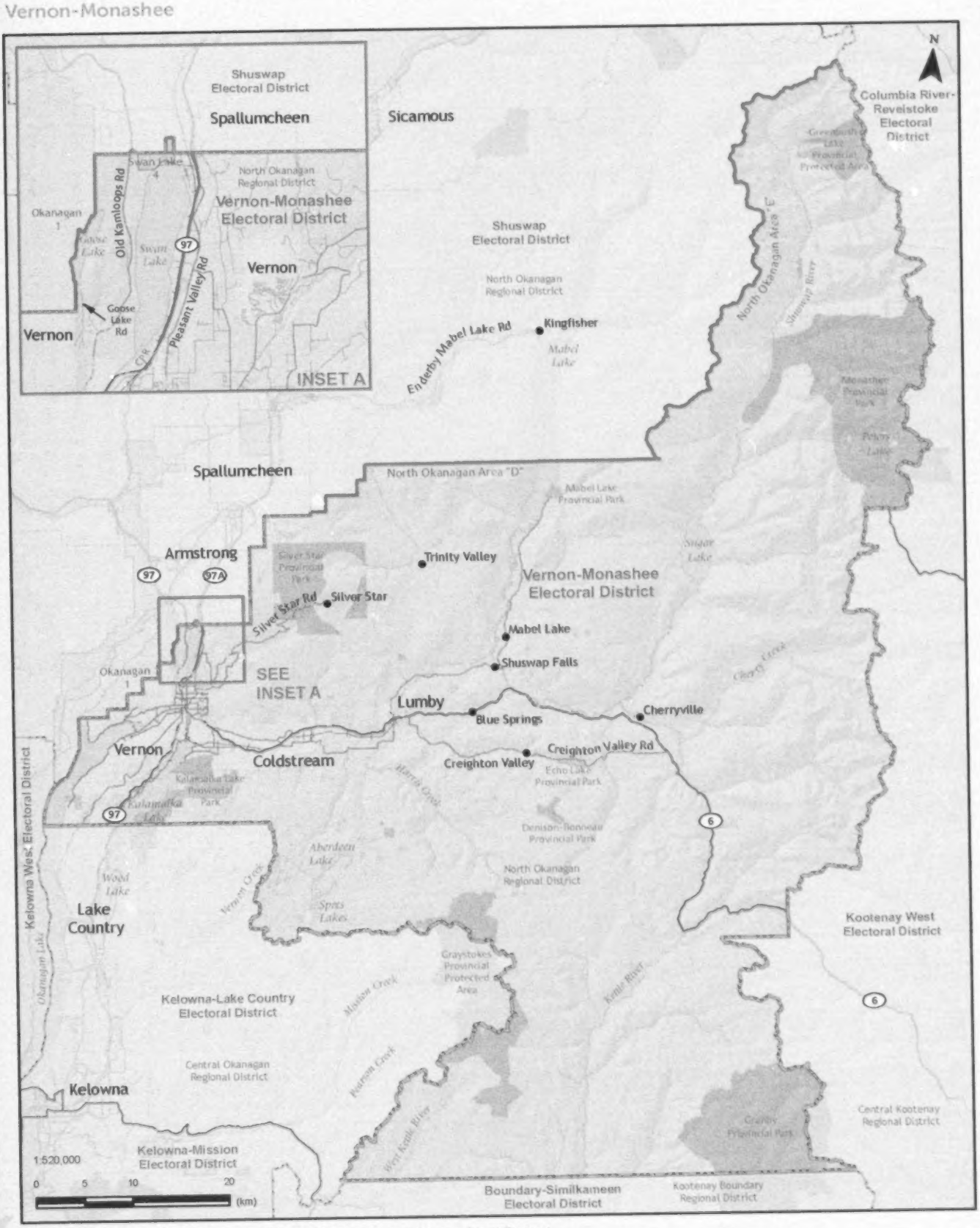
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Shuswap	56,352	6.1	8,610
Vernon-Monashee	62,106	16.9	5,035
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	15.0	1,165
Kelowna West	59,750	12.5	1,142
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	13.7	528
Penticton	56,722	6.8	1,908
Boundary-Similkameen	42,340	-20.3	15,614

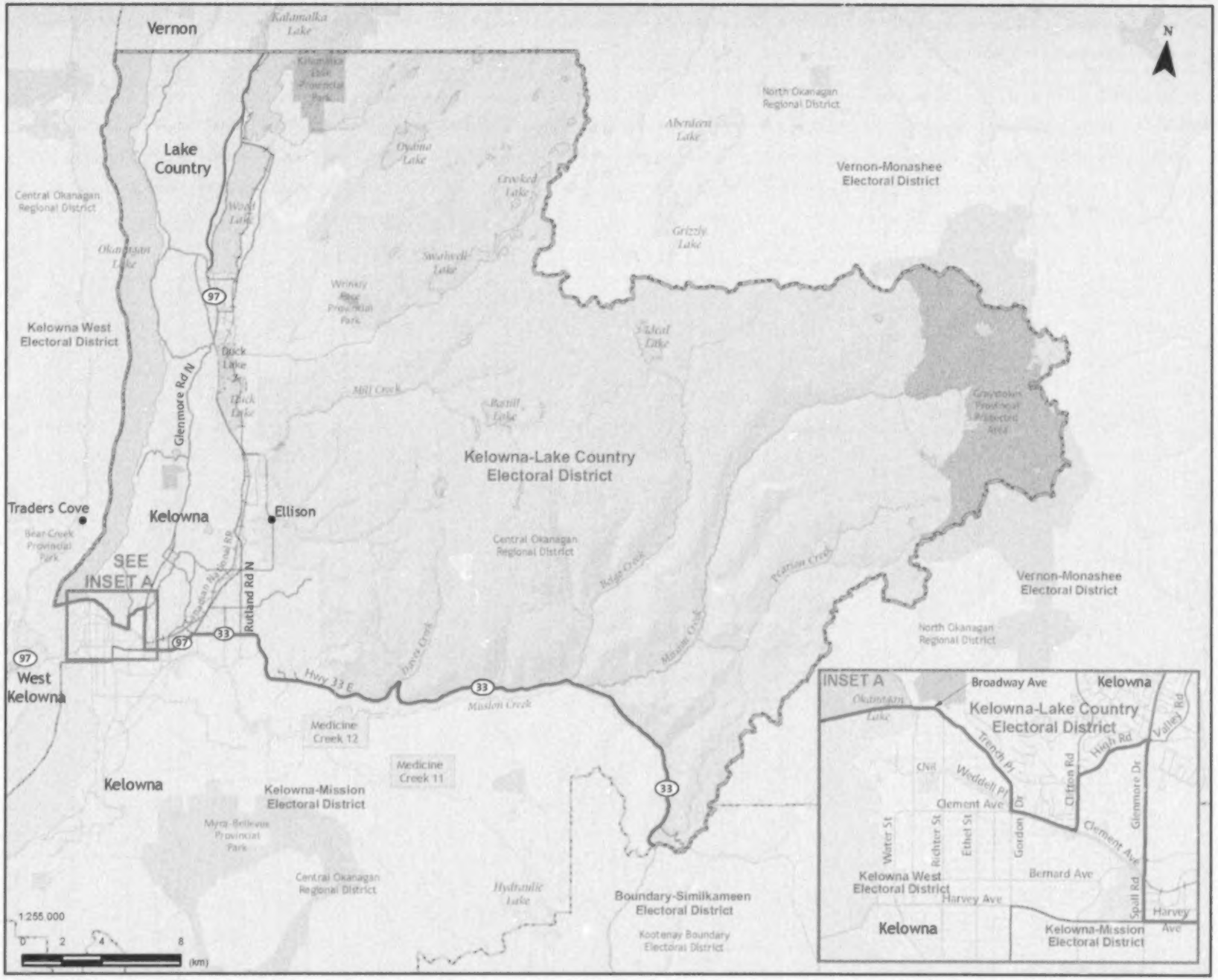
Okanagan/Shuswap



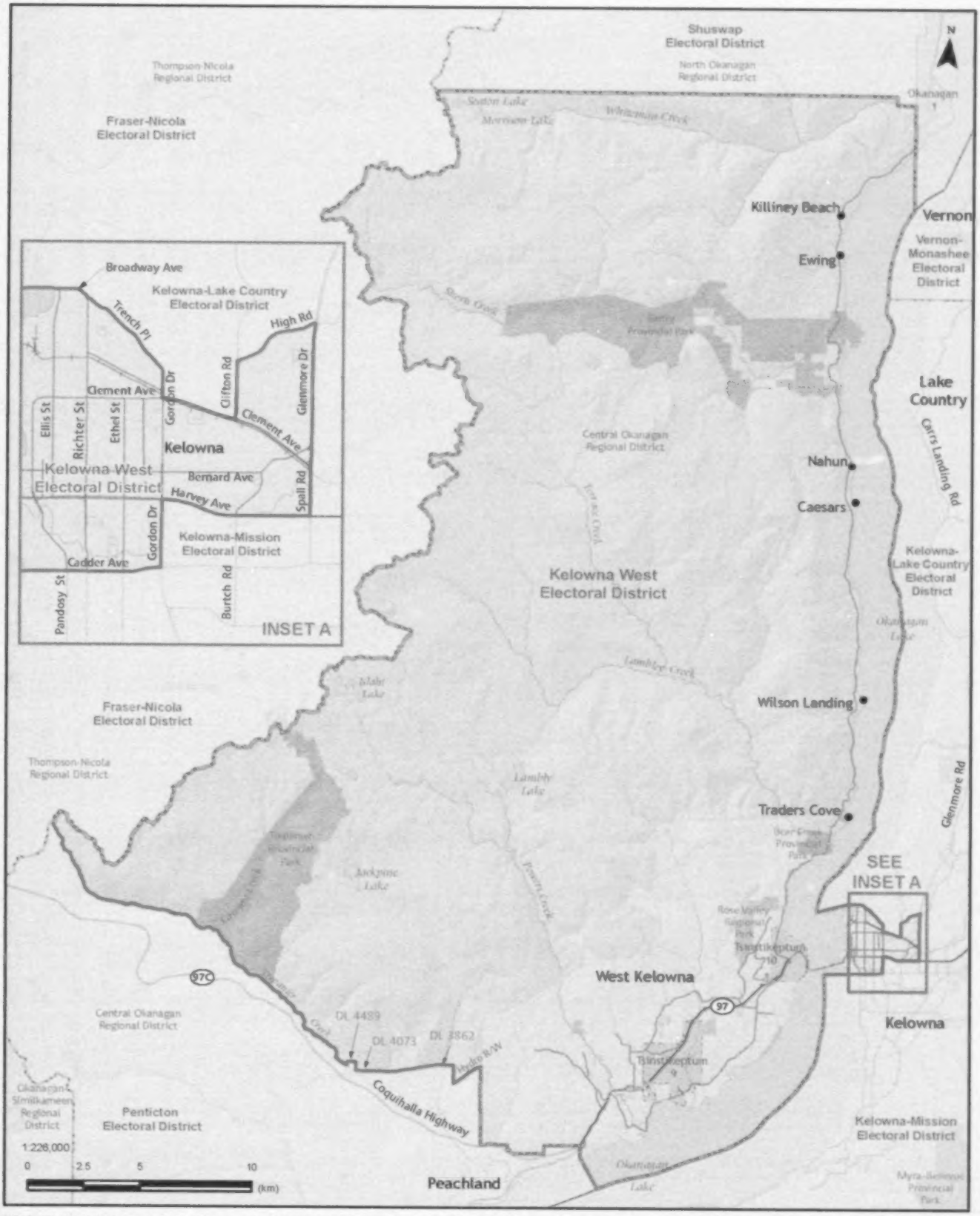

Shuswap Electoral District
Spallumcheen
Okanagan 1
Swan Lake 4
North Okanagan Regional District
Vernon-Monashee Electoral District
Goose Lake
Swan Lake
97
Old Kamloops Rd
Pleasant Valley Rd
Vernon
Okanagan 1
Vernon
INSET A
N
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District
Columbia-Shuswap Area "F"
Revelstoke Lake
Hunakwa Lake
Kamloops-North Thompson Electoral District
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Adams Lake
Columbia River-Revelstoke Electoral District
Mount Revelstoke National Park
Columbia-Shuswap Regional District
Shuswap Lake
Shuswap Electoral District
Revelstoke
Trans-Canada Hwy
Canadian Pacific Rly
Squilax-Anglemont Rd
Anglemont
Hustalen 1
Scotch Creek 4
Sun Peaks
Quaaout 1
Sorrento
Balmoral
Chase
Chum Creek 2
Sicamous
Mount Griffin Provincial Park
Upper Arrow Lake
North Okanagan Area "E"
Salmon Arm
Mara Lake
North Okanagan Regional District
South Thompson River
Pritchard
97A
97B
Kamloops-South Thompson Electoral District
Salmon River Rd
Enderby Cliffs Provincial Park
Enderby Mabel Lake Rd
Kingfisher
Mabel Lake
Monashee Provincial Park
Enderby
Falkland
97A
North Okanagan Area "F"
97
Armstrong
Spallumcheen
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Silver Star Provincial Park
Sugar Lake
North Okanagan Regional District
SEE INSET A
Vernon-Monashee Electoral District
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Lumby
Cherryville
Vernon
Coldstream
Kelowna West Electoral District
Central Okanagan Regional District
Kalamalka Lake
North Okanagan Regional District
1:740,000
0 5 10 20
(km)

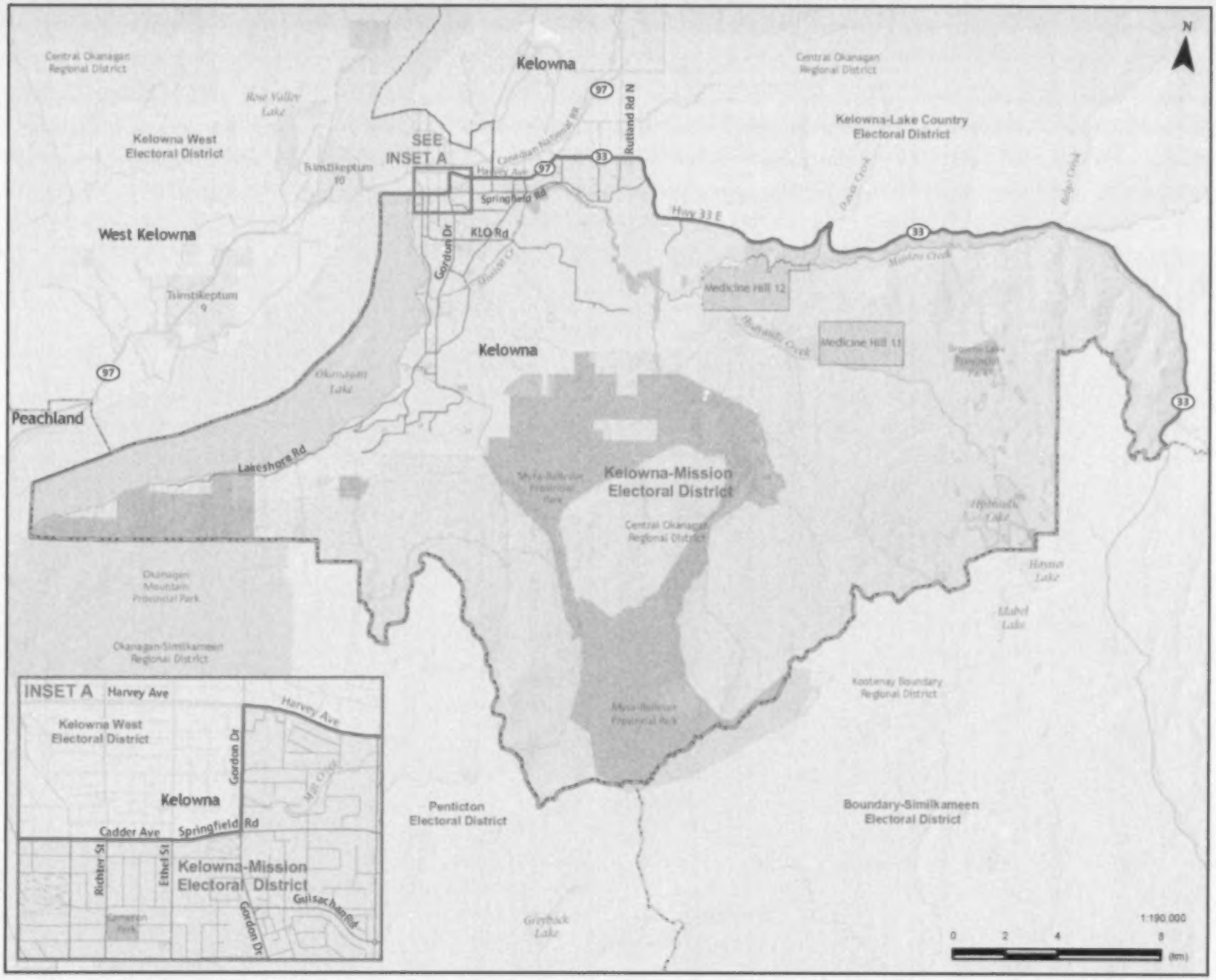
Vernon-Monashee




Vernon
Kalamalka Lake
Kalamalka Lake Provincial Park
North Okanagan Regional District
Aberdeen Lake
Oyama Lake
Lake Country
Crooked Lake
Vernon-Monashee Electoral District
Central Okanagan Regional District
Wood Lake
Grizzly Lake
Okanagan Lake
Swalwell Lake
Winery Creek Provincial Park
97
Kelowna West Electoral District
Duck Lake
Mill Creek
Bottrill Lake
Glenmore Rd N
Kelowna-Lake Country Electoral District
Traders Cove
Kelowna
Ellison
Bear Creek Provincial Park
SEE INSET A
Okanagan Rail Trail
Rutland Rd N
Central Okanagan Regional District
Ridge Creek
Pearson Creek
Vernon-Monashee Electoral District
33
Hwy 33 E
Mission Creek
Bulman Creek
West Kelowna
Medicine Creek 12
Medicine Creek 11
Kelowna
Kelowna-Mission Electoral District
Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park
Central Okanagan Regional District
Hydraulic Lake
Boundary-Similkameen Electoral District
Kootenay Boundary Electoral District
1:255,000
0 2 4 8
(km)
N
INSET A
Broadway Ave
Kelowna
Okanagan Lake
Kelowna-Lake Country Electoral District
Valley Rd
High Rd
Trench Pl
Weddell Pl
Clement Ave
Dr
Clifton Rd
Glenmore Dr
Water St
Richter St
Ethel St
Gordon
Bernard Ave
Harvey Ave
Spall Rd
Kelowna West Electoral District
Kelowna
Kelowna-Mission Electoral District

Kelowna West




Kelowna
Central Okanagan Regional District
Kelowna West Electoral District
Kelowna-Lake Country Electoral District
SEE INSET A
West Kelowna
Peachland
Kelowna-Mission Electoral District
Penticton Electoral District
Boundary-Similkameen Electoral District
Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District
Kootenay Boundary Regional District
Rutland Rd N
Springfield Rd
Harvey Ave
Gordon Dr
KLO Rd
Lakeshore Rd
Hwy 33 E
Medicine Hill 12
Medicine Hill 11
INSET A
Cadder Ave
Richter St
Ethel St
Gulsachan Rd
N
1:190,000
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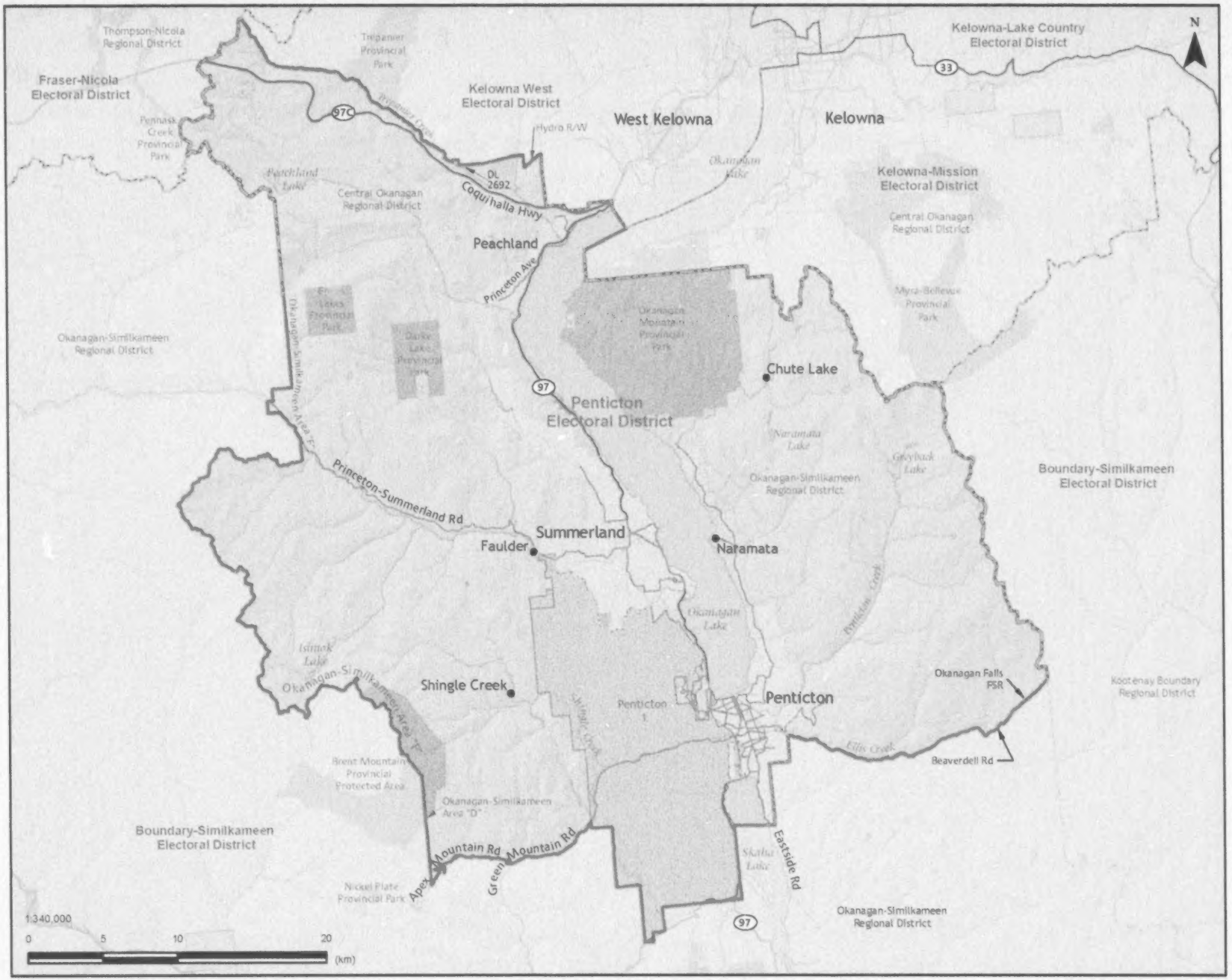
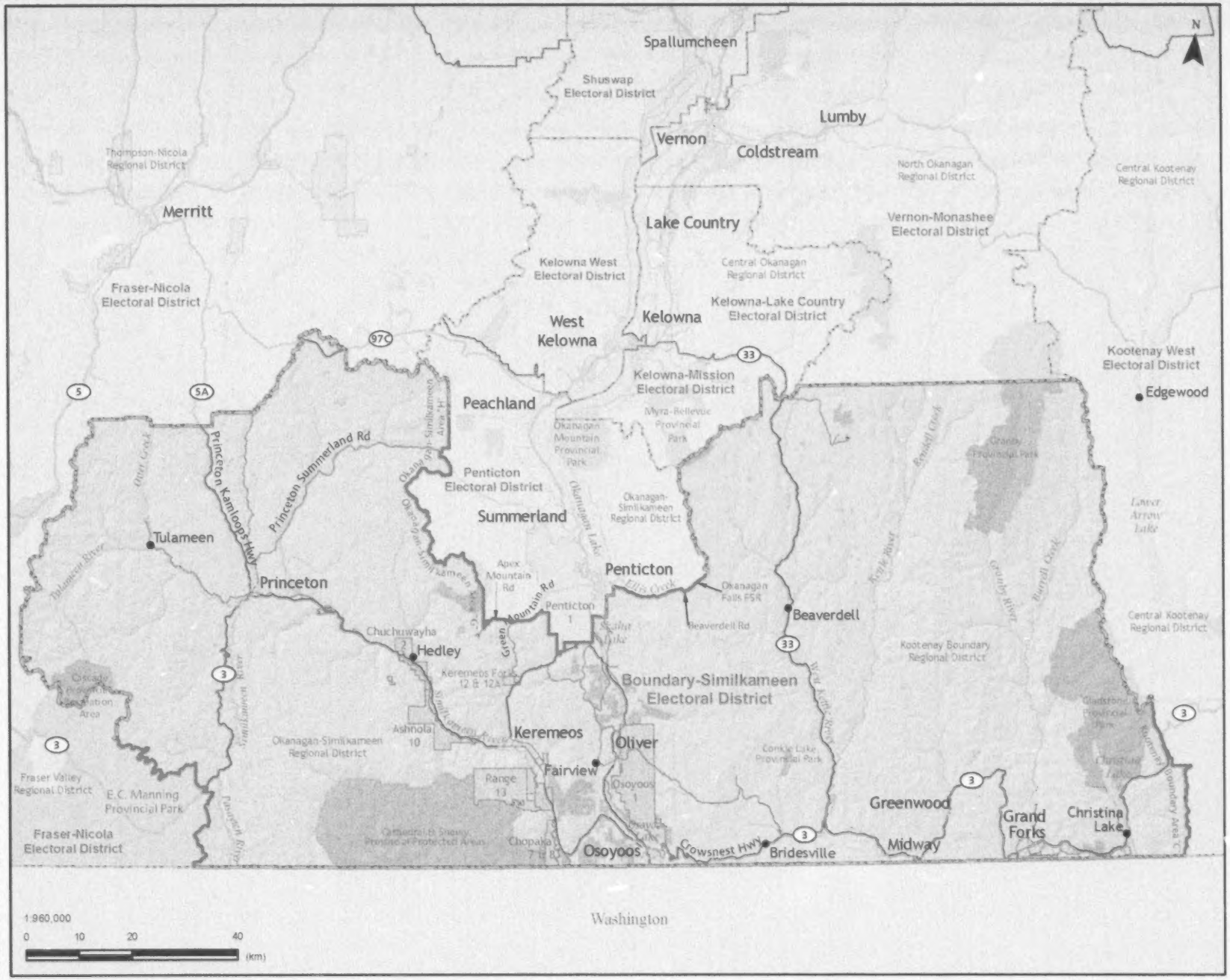
(km)


Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Tripanier Provincial Park
Kelowna-Lake Country Electoral District
N
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Kelowna West Electoral District
West Kelowna
Kelowna
33
97C
Pennask Creek Provincial Park
Hydro R/W
Okanagan Lake
Kelowna-Mission Electoral District
Central Okanagan Regional District
DL 2692
Coquihalla Hwy
Peachland
Princeton Ave
Okanagan Mountain Provincial Park
Myra-Bellevue Provincial Park
Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District
Chute Lake
97
Penticton Electoral District
Naramata Lake
Greyback Lake
Boundary-Similkameen Electoral District
Princeton-Summerland Rd
Summerland
Faulder
Naramata
Okanagan Lake
Penticton Creek
Okanagan Falls FSR
Shingle Creek
Penticton
Kootenay Boundary Regional District
Ellis Creek
Beaverdell Rd
Brent Mountain Provincial Protected Area
Okanagan-Similkameen Area "D"
Boundary-Similkameen Electoral District
Apex Mountain Rd
Green Mountain Rd
Eastside Rd
Nickel Plate Provincial Park
Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District
1:340,000
0 5 10 20
(km)



Proposals – Okanagan/Shuswap

Boundary-Similkameen

Greater Vancouver

The highest growth areas in the Lower Mainland are in Greater Vancouver, resulting in most of its electoral districts exceeding the provincial average and some even exceeding the permissible +/- 25% range. Surrey and Richmond are two cities with especially high growth. These cities currently do not have adequate seats to ensure effective representation for their populations and thus we have proposed to add an electoral district in each of Richmond and Surrey.

Changes to electoral district boundaries across Greater Vancouver are a result of the locations of these new electoral districts. Aside from Richmond and Surrey, much of the input we received from people in Greater Vancouver indicated a preference for limited changes to electoral boundaries there. Further, there was a desire that proposed electoral districts not cross municipal boundaries. We have been able to achieve this result in most of the Greater Vancouver area. We also received input on the importance of keeping neighbourhoods within municipalities intact. This has been more challenging to adopt as the boundaries of neighbourhoods in some areas are not always well defined and in areas of high growth can be quite fluid. Therefore, our proposals try to respect the spirit of this input where possible.

We propose no changes to: Vancouver-Fairview, Vancouver-Langara, Vancouver-Kensington, Vancouver-Fraserview, Vancouver-Kingsway, Vancouver-Hastings, Vancouver-Mount Pleasant, West Vancouver-Capilano, Coquitlam-Burke Mountain, Port Coquitlam, Burnaby-Deer Lake, Burnaby-Edmonds, Delta South, and Delta North.

Vancouver

Vancouver is a growing area of Greater Vancouver and nearly every electoral district is over the provincial average. However, we heard from a number of presenters in Vancouver that the need to add an electoral district was greater in Surrey and Richmond than in Vancouver. Submissions requested that we maintain the existing number of districts in Vancouver and that we rebalance the populations among the districts.

Coal Harbour is currently divided between Vancouver-West End and Vancouver-False Creek. We have reunited the entire Coal Harbour neighbourhood in Vancouver-West End by continuing the existing boundary between Vancouver-West End and Vancouver-False Creek up Burrard Street to the Burrard Inlet. This change has the additional benefits of better balancing the populations between the two districts and providing more room for growth in Vancouver-False Creek.

The boundary between Vancouver-Quilchena and Vancouver-Point Grey has been adjusted to reflect the change to the Pacific Spirit Regional Park boundary resulting from the 2008 Reconciliation Settlement and Benefits Agreement between the Province and the Musqueam First Nation.

No further changes to Vancouver electoral districts are proposed.

North Vancouver

The two North Vancouver electoral districts are currently aligned to include the entire City of North Vancouver in North Vancouver-Lonsdale and most of the District Municipality of North Vancouver in North Vancouver-Seymour. We view this divide as logical, but following suggestions from the public we have made small changes to the boundary between these two districts around Lynn Valley to follow Highway 1 to better reflect communities of interest and to balance the population between the two electoral districts while taking into account future growth areas.

West Vancouver

Both the West Vancouver-Sea to Sky and West Vancouver-Capilano electoral districts have populations very close to the provincial average and have logical boundaries. Therefore, we propose only one change to provide for more effective representation for the Tipella and Skookumchuck First Nations communities around the north end of Harrison Lake. The road connections in this area are with Pemberton and Mount Currie to the north, not with the Fraser Valley to the south. Therefore, we propose moving the boundary between West Vancouver-Sea to Sky and Chilliwack-Kent south to include these communities in West Vancouver-Sea to Sky.

Tri-Cities

Unlike other areas of the Lower Mainland that either correspond to municipal boundaries or have a number of electoral districts contained exclusively within a municipality, the Tri-Cities is an area where this is not possible. The Tri-Cities is made up of the cities of Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, and Coquitlam. Although they are three distinct municipalities, these cities work closely together and many residents view this area as a community in itself. We heard from the public that it is important to keep the four Tri-Cities electoral districts within the boundaries of the Tri-Cities area, as we have done with single municipalities. The changes we propose in the Tri-Cities take into account the public input we received and rebalance population between Port Moody-Coquitlam and Coquitlam-Maillardville. We propose shifting the south-west boundary of Port Moody-Coquitlam north to Foster Road and moving the south-east boundary south to Como Lake Road and the right of way east of Pinnacle Creek Ravine Municipal Park.

Burnaby

The City of Burnaby has four electoral districts contained entirely within its municipal boundaries. They each currently revolve around a town centre: Brentwood, Lougheed, Metrotown, and Royal Oak/Edmonds. We believe this is a logical way to divide these communities into electoral districts. However, the Brentwood area is growing significantly more than the other neighbourhoods. We have, therefore, acknowledged this growth by rebalancing the population between these higher and lower growth areas.

Consistent with a recommendation made by the public, we shifted the boundary between Burnaby-Lougheed and Burnaby North from Sperling Avenue to Kensington Avenue. This relatively small adjustment enables us to rebalance the populations of the two districts and to account for the higher rate of growth in the Brentwood area.

Richmond/New Westminster/Delta

Richmond, New Westminster, and Delta are populous areas with electoral districts entirely within each municipality's borders. Unlike Richmond and New Westminster, both Delta electoral districts have populations much closer to the provincial average and relatively low rates of growth. We concluded that the current boundaries are effective in dividing the population between the two major communities of interest within Delta. Therefore, no changes are proposed to Delta North or Delta South.

In contrast to Delta, two of Richmond's current three electoral districts already have exceeded the allowable population deviation and are projected to see significantly more growth. However, the population of Richmond does not warrant four electoral districts contained within Richmond's municipal boundaries. With a population 29.7% above the provincial average, the current electoral district of New Westminster also exceeds the +/- 25% deviation. Although the City of New Westminster historically has had an electoral

district that matches its municipal boundaries, its population has grown too large to maintain this. We heard from numerous members of the public that the Queensborough neighbourhood of New Westminster on Lulu Island has ties to Richmond in addition to its ties to the rest of New Westminster and that if changes to New Westminster are required, Queensborough residents could be effectively represented in a Richmond-Queensborough electoral district. Therefore we propose combining the Queensborough neighbourhood with the East Richmond neighbourhood on Lulu Island. This shift brings New Westminster within the +/- 25% deviation range without requiring any further changes.

With the addition of Queensborough, the population of the entire Lulu Island now warrants a fourth electoral district. Our proposals combine Queensborough with the Hamilton neighbourhood of Richmond, most of East Richmond and a small part of the South Arm community. We call this electoral district Richmond-Queensborough.

The community known as Richmond City Centre is the most populous part of the city and is also the fastest growing. Our proposals proportion this very densely populated community between two electoral districts.

Richmond North Centre includes the area north-west of Richmond City Hall, including Sea Island. Richmond South Centre is oriented south-east of Richmond City Hall.

Our proposals largely retain the existing Richmond-Steveston electoral district as it is. However, to allow for future growth we have removed three blocks in the north-east of the district north of Francis Road and east of No. 2 Road from the current Richmond-Steveston and placed this area in Richmond South Centre.

Surrey

The City of Surrey continues to be a high growth area of the province. Seven of the eight electoral districts in Surrey are well over the provincial average and this rate of growth is projected to continue. Two districts already exceed the maximum allowable population range and two more are very close. The significantly higher than average population of the Surrey electoral districts leads to concerns about effective representation. In our view Surrey's existing population and continued high growth warrant an additional electoral district. Therefore, we are proposing that the number of electoral districts in Surrey be increased from eight to nine.

Adding a new electoral district within the Surrey municipal boundaries that appropriately balances the population between the districts requires a substantial reconfiguration of the electoral districts. While a few districts in the north-west of the city and the district around White Rock are similar to the existing electoral districts in those areas, the remainder of the electoral districts in Surrey are substantially different from the current districts.

After the release of our Preliminary Report, we received a largely positive response to our Surrey proposals, particularly regarding the addition of a ninth electoral district for the area. We also heard many requests to respect the six community boundaries (Cloverdale, Fleetwood, Guildford, Newton, South Surrey, Whalley) in our electoral district proposals for Surrey. However, we found it challenging to follow community boundaries as closely in Surrey as we have in other areas of the Lower Mainland due to the large and unequal populations between these communities.

For example, submitters explained that Clayton belongs in an electoral district with Cloverdale as they are both part of the Cloverdale community. Similarly, Fleetwood residents expressed concerns that our preliminary proposals did not include the core of the Fleetwood community in

Surrey-Fleetwood. However, both Clayton and Cloverdale are expected to see significant growth and are too large to be in one electoral district, as is the Fleetwood community. Therefore, we could not accommodate all of these requests. This inability to follow community boundaries more closely has required us to propose electoral districts in Surrey that place some communities in multiple electoral districts.

Our proposed Surrey-Whalley electoral district has boundaries relatively similar to the current Surrey-Whalley, with the exception of four square blocks north of 100 Avenue between 140 Street and 148 Street that have been removed from the current Surrey-Whalley and placed in Surrey-Guildford.

In contrast to the current Surrey-Tynehead electoral district, our proposed Surrey-Guildford electoral district includes four additional blocks in the Guildford area and will use Tynehead Park and Golden Ears Way as its southern boundary.

Since 2008 the population of the current Surrey-Cloverdale district has grown by more than 55%, with almost all of this growth occurring in the dense Cloverdale and Clayton areas. These communities are now too large for a single electoral district and their population must be assigned to two districts. Our proposed Surrey-Cloverdale electoral district includes the Cloverdale community north of Highway 10 and west of 188 Street. This district also includes parts of the current Surrey-Fleetwood and Surrey-Tynehead districts north of Cloverdale.

Our proposed Surrey-Fleetwood electoral district is more compact than the current Surrey-Fleetwood district, adjusting the neighbourhoods east of 160 Street to Surrey-Cloverdale, and adding blocks in the south and west. Thus, the landmarks of Fleetwood Park and Fleetwood Park Secondary School are retained within the district.

Our proposed Surrey-Green Timbers electoral district is also similar to the current Surrey-Green Timbers with the exception of two blocks that have been removed east of Bear Creek Park.

The eastern boundary of our proposed Surrey-Newton electoral district ends at 144 Street, but now includes an additional block east of King George Boulevard north of 68 Avenue. Otherwise it largely is consistent with the current Surrey-Newton district.

Our proposed district south of Surrey-Newton largely consists of the area that was in the Surrey-Panorama district north of the BC Rail line. We propose this district be named Surrey-Panorama.

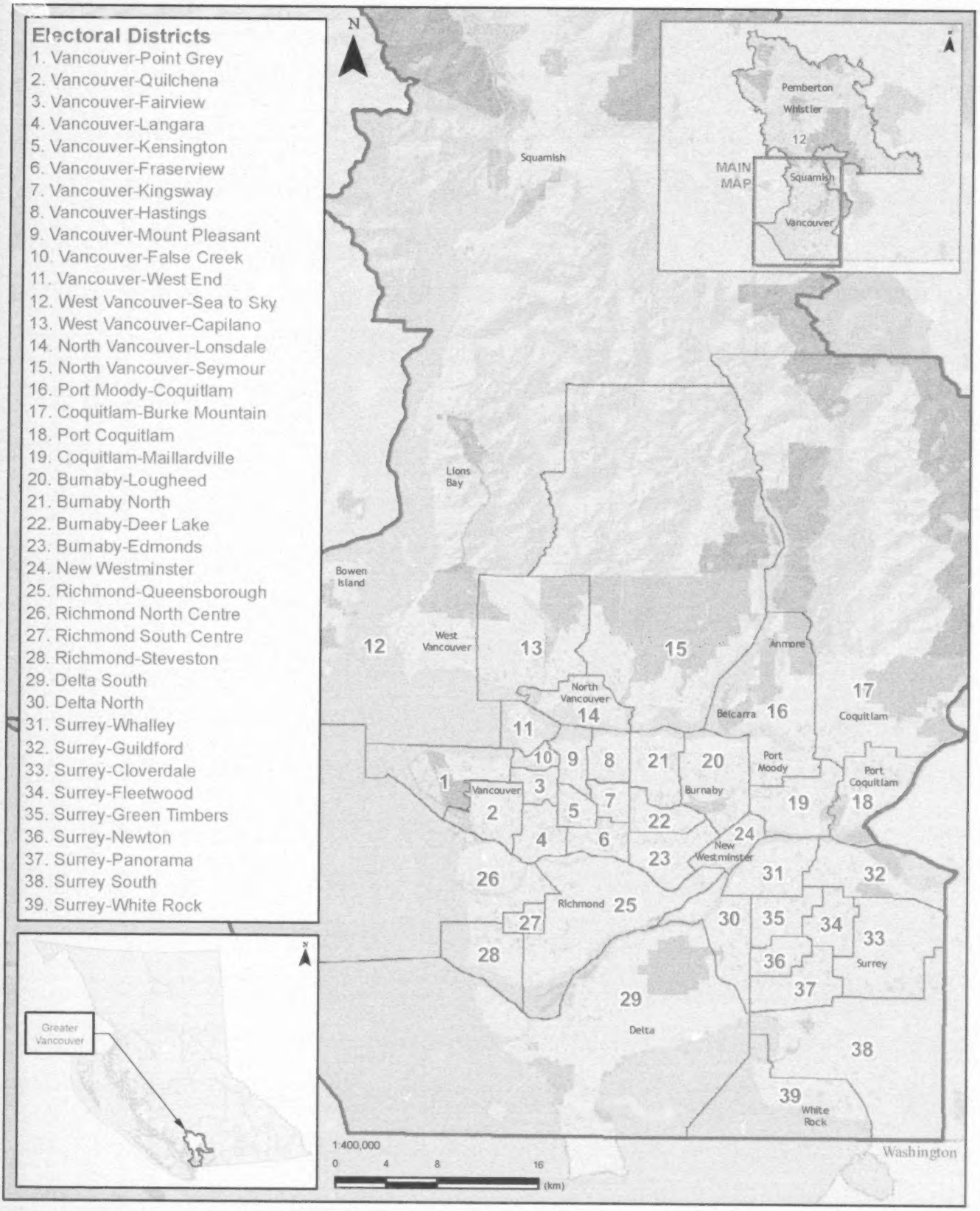
South of Surrey-Panorama is our proposed Surrey South electoral district. Surrey South is the largest of our proposed Surrey electoral districts geographically. It stretches from Mud Bay east to the Langley border and from the Peace Arch border crossing north to East Cloverdale and Clayton.

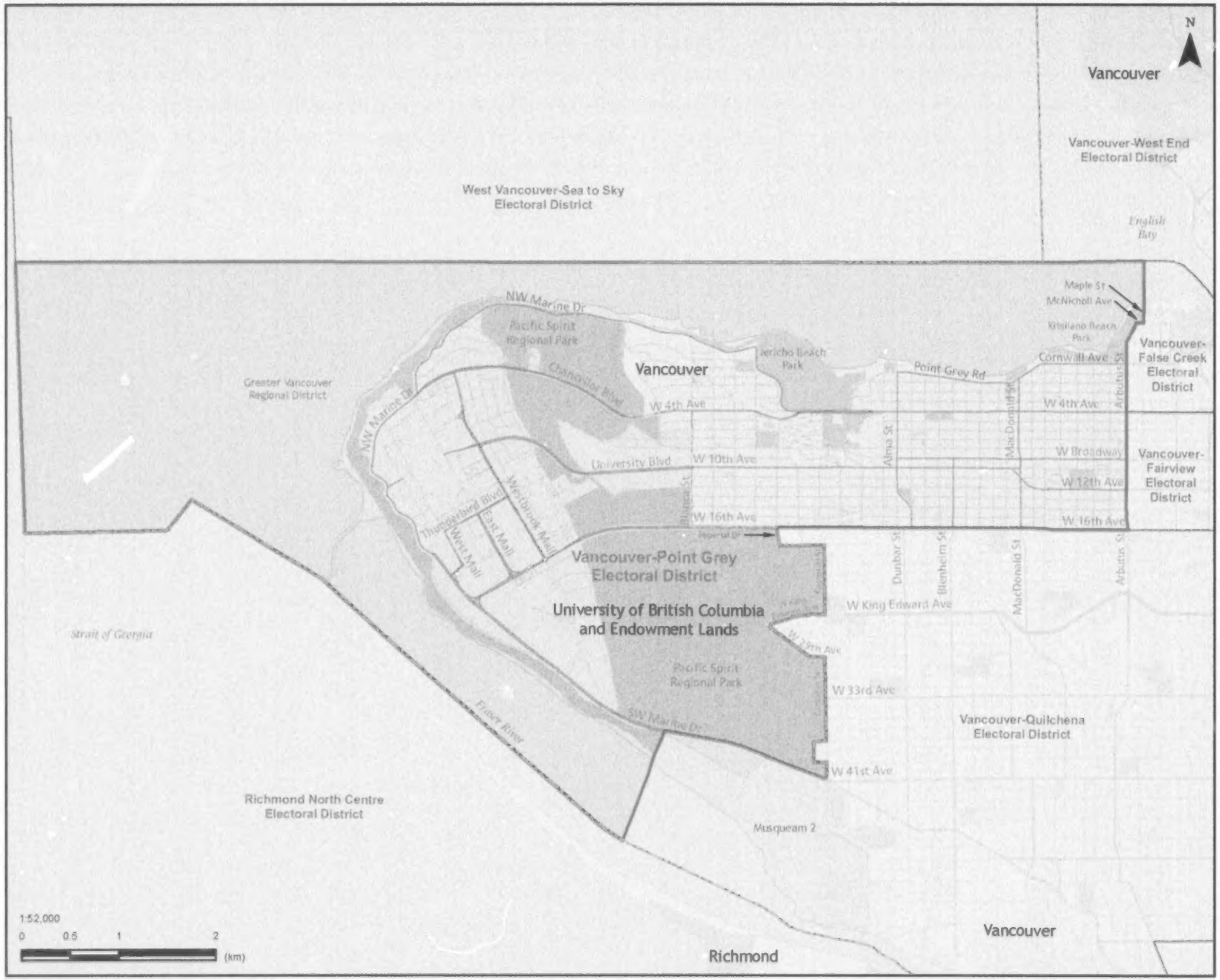
Our proposed Surrey-White Rock electoral district boundaries largely are consistent with the existing Surrey-White Rock; however we propose the district also include the community west of 128 Street, including the Crescent Beach neighbourhood and marina.

Table 13: Proposed electoral districts population and area – Greater Vancouver

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	14.1	42
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	12.9	23
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	12.4	9
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	13.0	15
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	15.3	9
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	18.4	13
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	17.6	9
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	12.0	14
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	9.3	13
Vancouver-False Creek	57,261	7.8	6
Vancouver-West End	57,287	7.8	14
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	55,129	3.8	11,709
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	7.6	80
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	57,431	8.1	25
North Vancouver-Seymour	58,120	9.4	388
Port Moody-Coquitlam	59,355	11.7	85
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	11.1	620
Port Coquitlam	60,813	14.5	35
Coquitlam-Maillardville	58,351	9.8	30
Burnaby-Lougheed	59,797	12.6	37
Burnaby North	58,159	9.5	23
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,195	9.6	14
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	13.8	22
New Westminster	61,422	15.6	14
Richmond-Queensborough	55,627	4.7	92
Richmond North Centre	49,157	-7.5	440
Richmond South Centre	50,101	-5.7	7
Richmond-Steveston	55,539	4.6	30
Delta South	47,577	-10.4	464
Delta North	55,011	3.6	32
Surrey-Whalley	58,668	10.4	27
Surrey-Guildford	58,037	9.3	42
Surrey-Cloverdale	59,649	12.3	55
Surrey-Fleetwood	60,477	13.9	17
Surrey-Green Timbers	58,816	10.7	18
Surrey-Newton	58,340	9.8	12
Surrey-Panorama	60,128	13.2	24
Surrey South	57,746	8.7	125
Surrey-White Rock	58,588	10.3	68

Greater Vancouver




N
Vancouver
Vancouver-West End Electoral District
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky Electoral District
English Bay
Maple St
McNicholl Ave
Kitsilano Beach Park
Vancouver-False Creek Electoral District
Cornwall Ave
Arbutus St
Point Grey Rd
W 4th Ave
NW Marine Dr
Pacific Spirit Regional Park
Chancellor Blvd
Jericho Beach Park
Vancouver
Greater Vancouver Regional District
Alma St
MacDonald St
W Broadway
Vancouver-Fairview Electoral District
University Blvd
W 10th Ave
W 12th Ave
Blanca St
Thunderbird Blvd
Westbrook Mall
East Mall
West Mall
W 16th Ave
Imperial Dr
Vancouver-Point Grey Electoral District
University of British Columbia and Endowment Lands
Dunbar St
Blenheim St
MacDonald St
Arbutus St
W King Edward Ave
W 29th Ave
Strait of Georgia
Pacific Spirit Regional Park
W 33rd Ave
SW Marine Dr
Fraser River
Vancouver-Quilchena Electoral District
W 41st Ave
Richmond North Centre Electoral District
Musqueam 2
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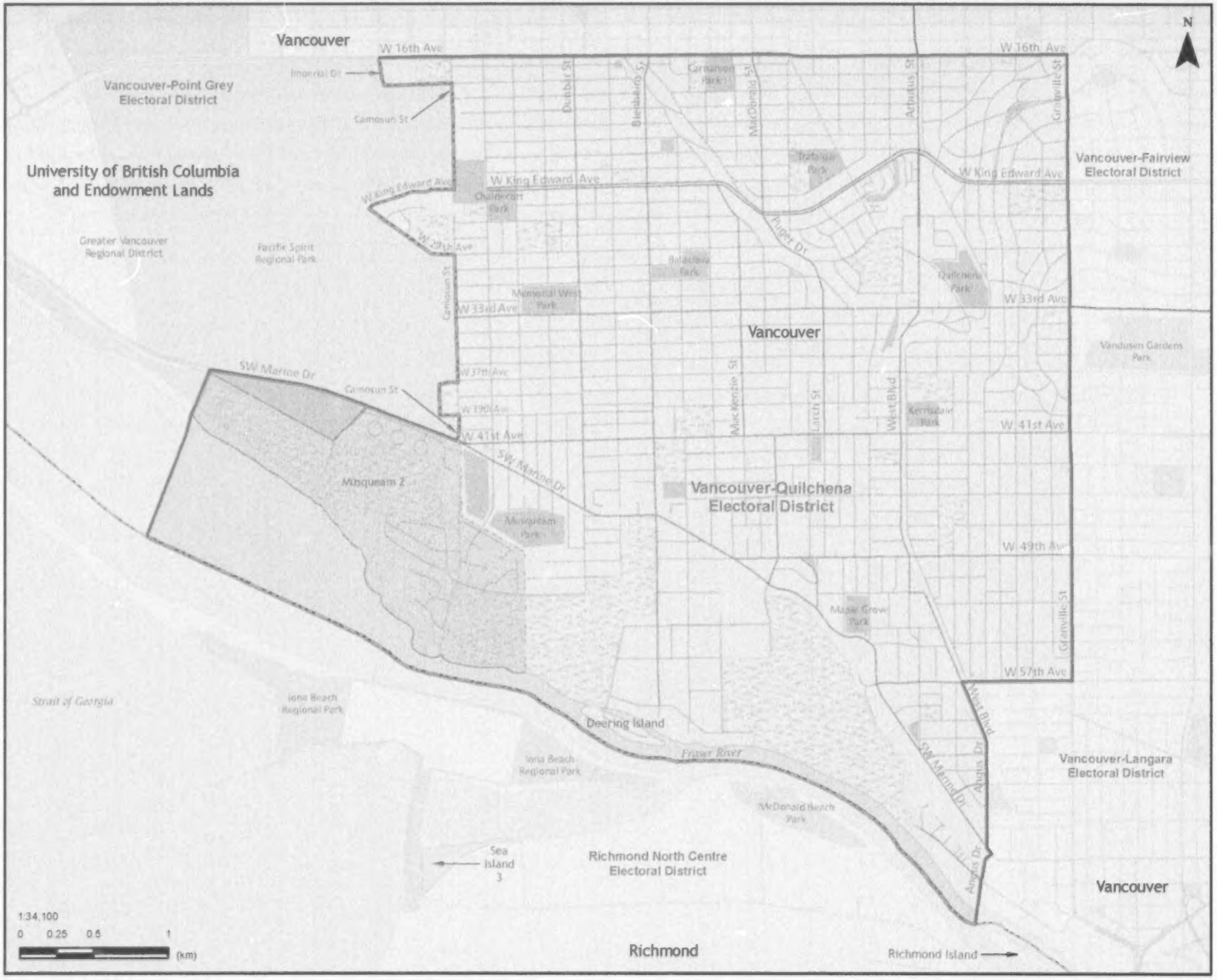
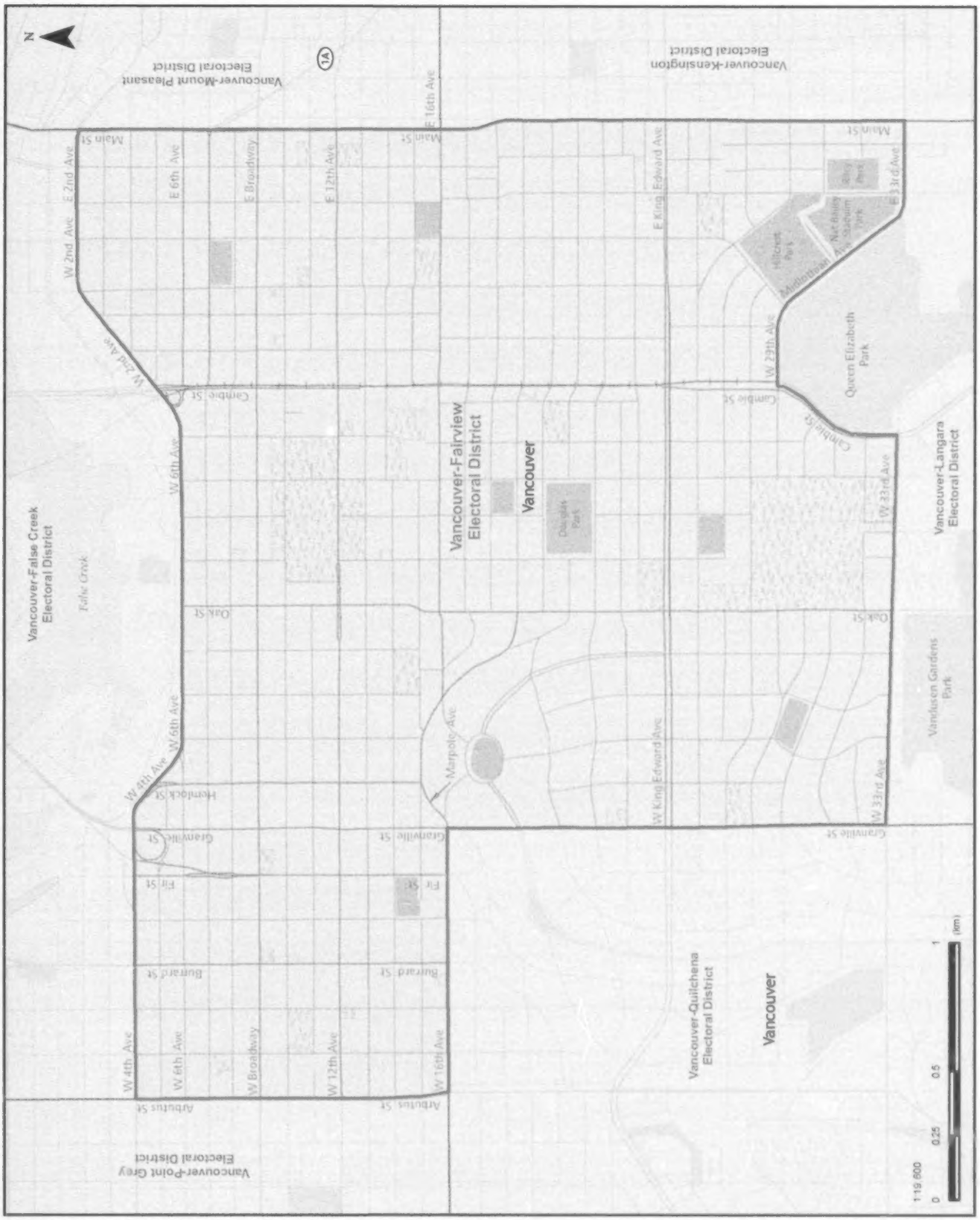
(km)
Vancouver
Richmond

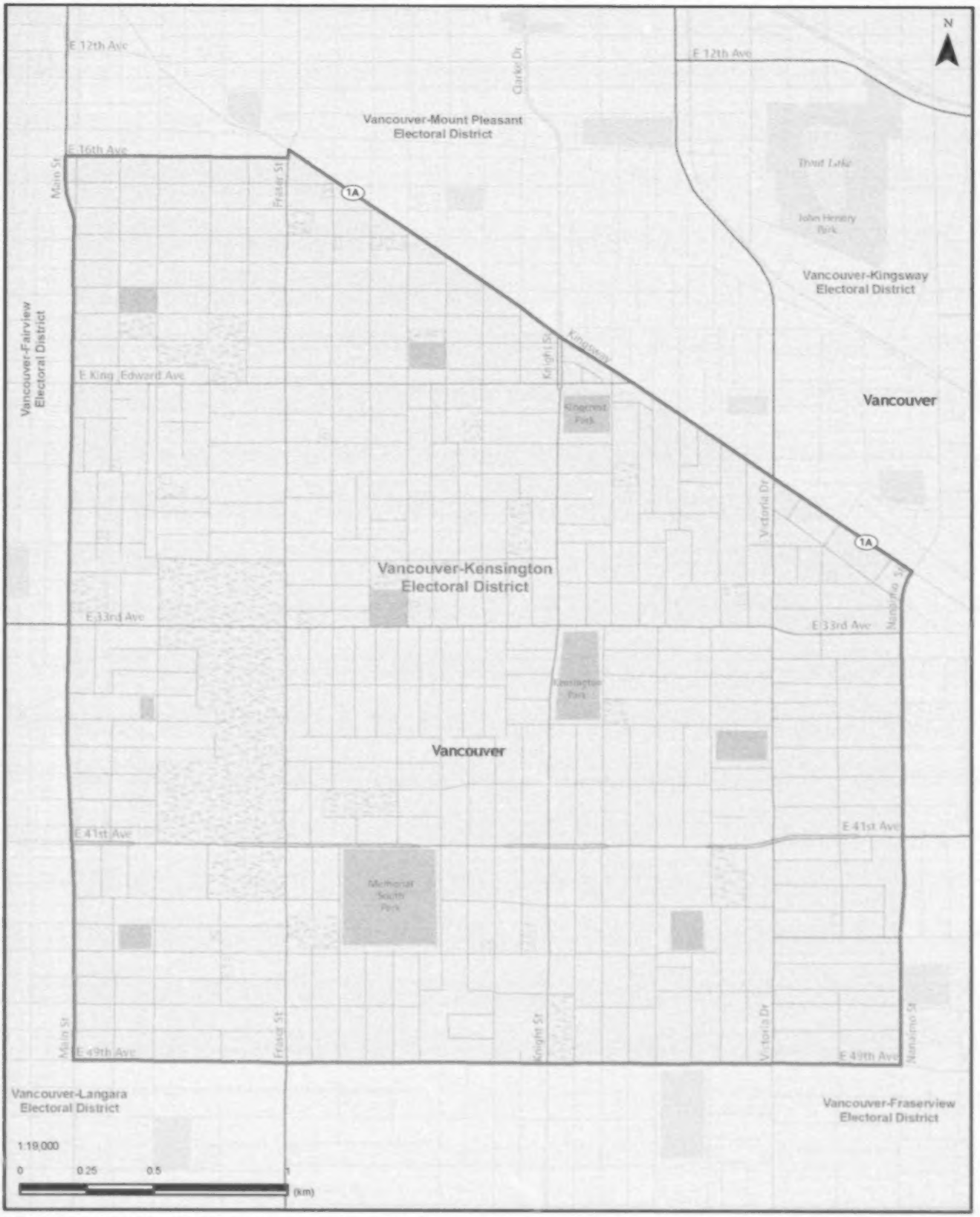

Vancouver
W 16th Ave
Imperial Dr
Camosun St
Vancouver-Point Grey Electoral District
University of British Columbia and Endowment Lands
Greater Vancouver Regional District
Pacific Spirit Regional Park
W King Edward Ave
Chaldecott Park
W 29th Ave
Memorial West Park
W 33rd Ave
SW Marine Dr
W 37th Ave
W 41st Ave
Musqueam 2
Musqueam Park
Strait of Georgia
Iona Beach Regional Park
Deering Island
Fraser River
McDonald Beach Park
Sea Island 3
Richmond North Centre Electoral District
Richmond
Richmond Island
1:34,100
0 0.25 0.5 1
(km)
Dunbar St
Blenheim St
Carnarvon Park
MacDonald St
Arbutus St
Granville St
Trafalgar Park
Vancouver-Fairview Electoral District
Pitt Park
Bidwell Park
Pacific Park
Quilchena Park
Vandusen Gardens Park
Mackenzie St
Larch St
West Blvd
Kerrisdale Park
Vancouver-Quilchena Electoral District
Maple Grove Park
W 49th Ave
W 57th Ave
Angus Dr
Vancouver-Langara Electoral District
Vancouver
N

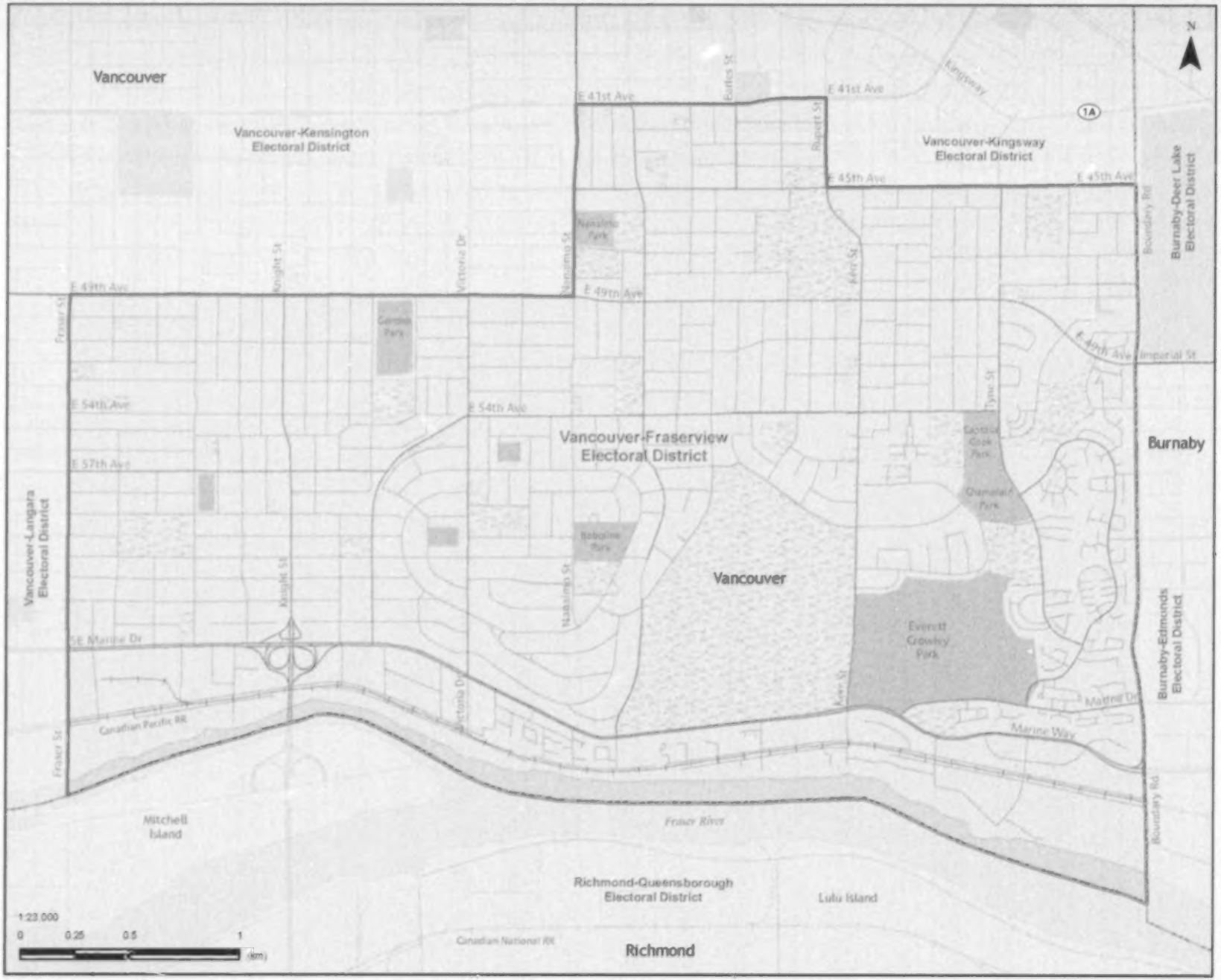
Vancouver-Fairview



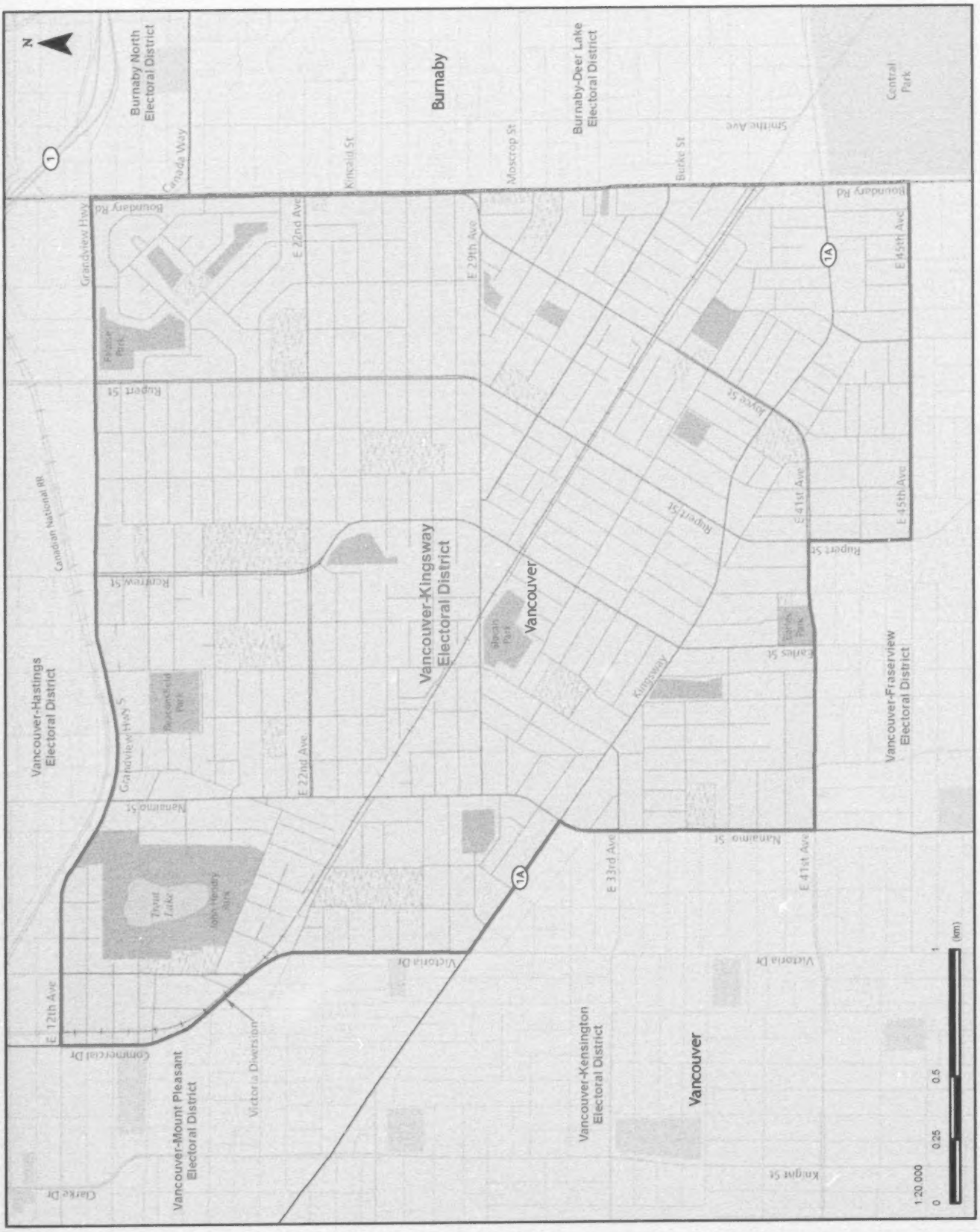
Vancouver-Fairview
Electoral District
W 29th Ave
McRorbert Ave
W 33rd Ave
E 33rd Ave
Cambie St
Queen
Elizabeth
Park
W 33rd Ave
Granville St
Oak St
Vanduson
Gardens
Park
Eric Hamber
Park
Main St
Fraser St
Knight St
Arbutus St
Vancouver-Quilchena
Electoral District
Vancouver-Kensington
Electoral District
W 41st Ave
E 41st Ave
Vancouver
Montgomery
Park
Fraser St
W 49th Ave
E 49th Ave
Vancouver-Langara
Electoral District
Granville St
W 57th Ave
E 57th Ave
Vancouver-Fraserview
Electoral District
West Blvd
Park Dr
Cun
Park
Winona
Park
Main St
Knight St
W 64th Ave
SE Marine Dr
SW Marine Dr
Cambie St
Oak St
W 70th Ave
SW Marine Dr
Canadian Pacific RR
Richmond
Mitchell
Island
Richmond North Centre
Electoral District
Richmond
Island
99
Canadian Pacific RR
Oak St
Richmond-Queensborough
Electoral District
Richmond
Grant McConachie
Way
Fraser River
1:30,000
0 0.25 0.5 1
(km)
N

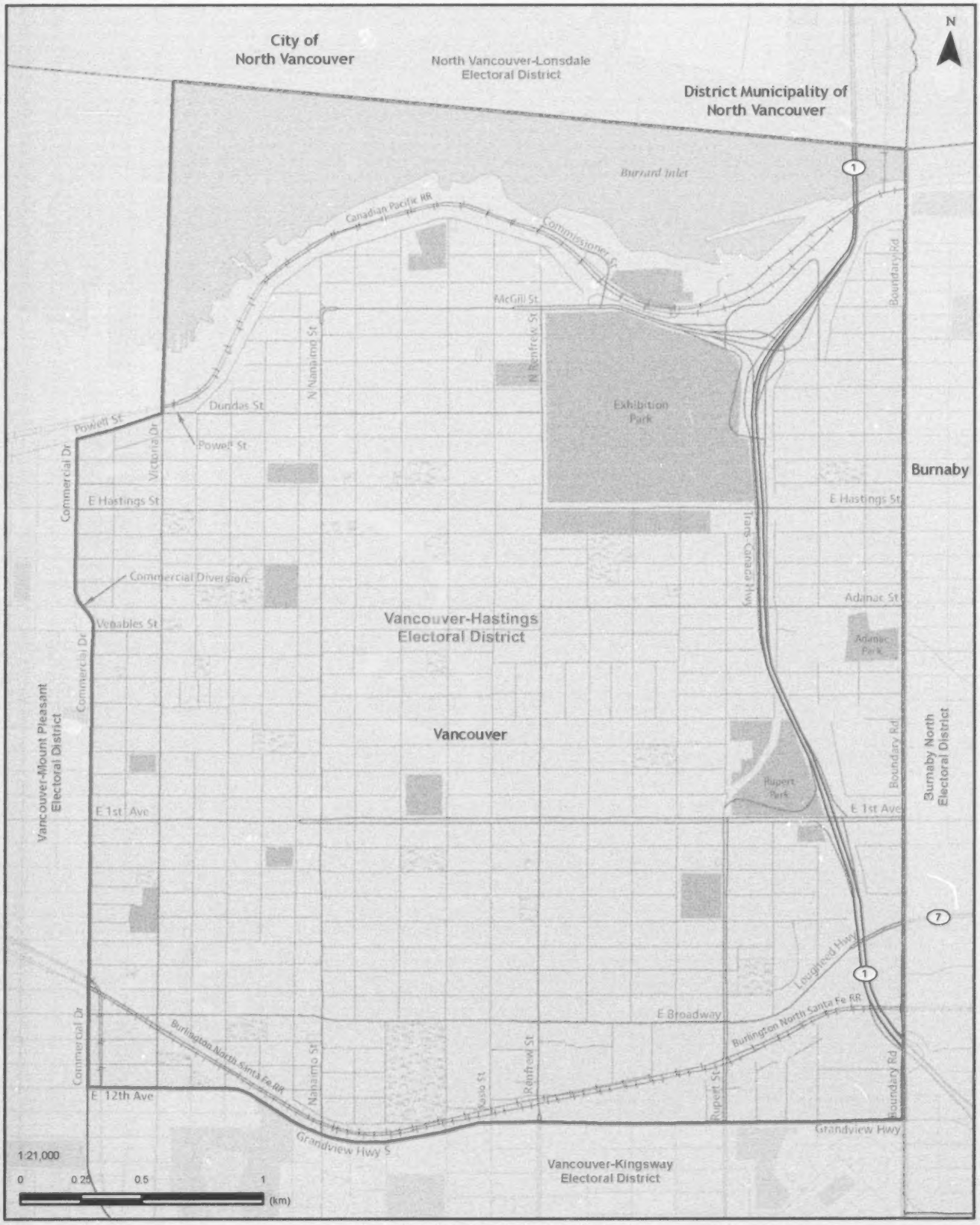
Vancouver-Kensington



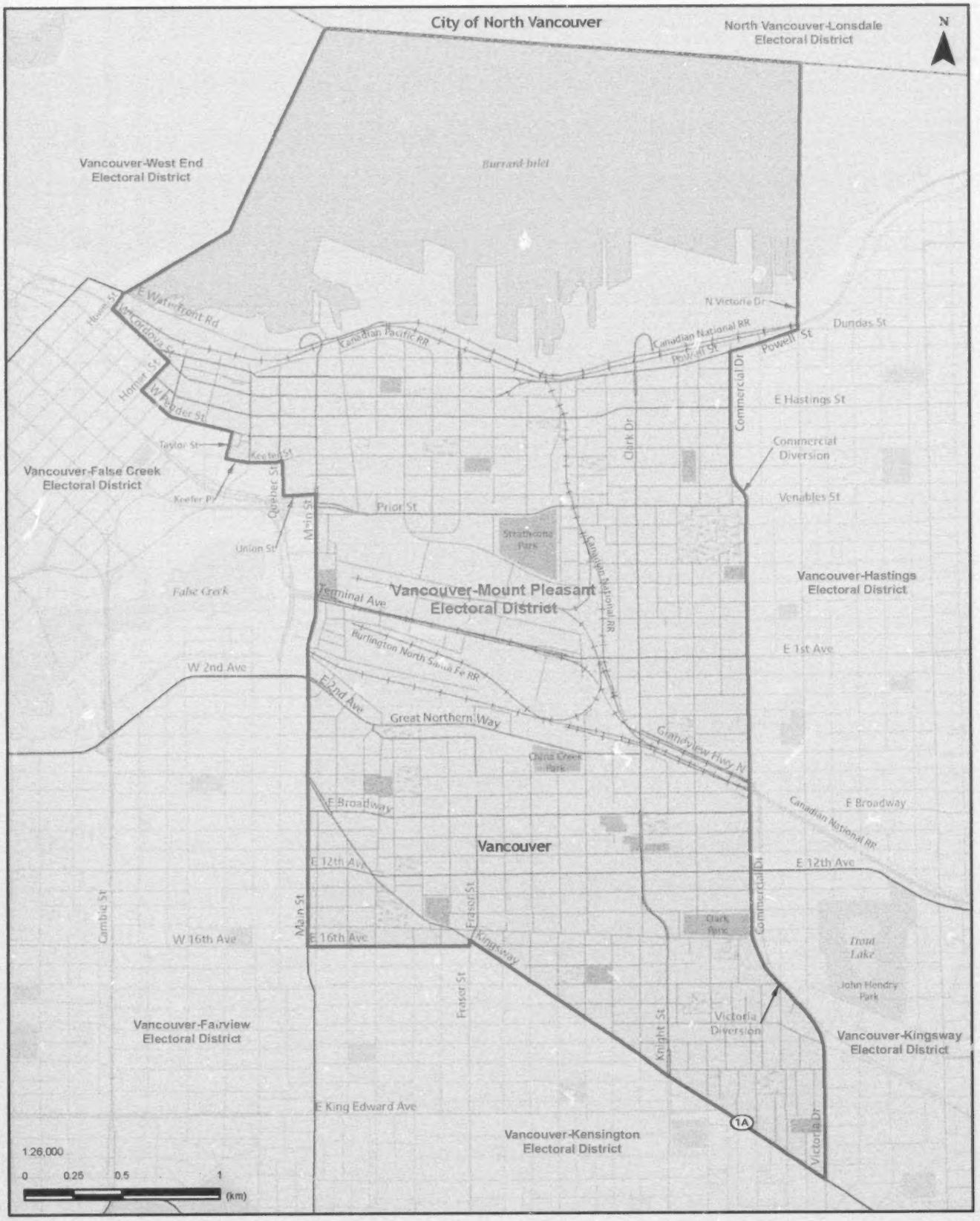

Vancouver
Vancouver-Kensington Electoral District
Vancouver-Kingsway Electoral District
Burnaby-Deer Lake Electoral District
Vancouver-Fraserview Electoral District
Vancouver-Langara Electoral District
Burnaby
Burnaby-Edmonds Electoral District
Richmond-Queensborough Electoral District
Richmond
E 41st Ave
E 45th Ave
E 49th Ave
E 54th Ave
E 57th Ave
SE Marine Dr
Kingsway
Burke St
Rupert St
Knight St
Victoria Dr
Nanaimo St
Kerr St
Fraser St
Tyne St
Boundary Rd
Imperial St
Marine Way
Canadian Pacific RR
Canadian National RR
Fraser River
Mitchell Island
Lulu Island
Nanaimo Park
Carolina Park
Boboline Park
Captain Cook Park
Chamalaf Park
Everett Crowley Park
1A
N
1:23,000
0 0.25 0.5 1 (km)

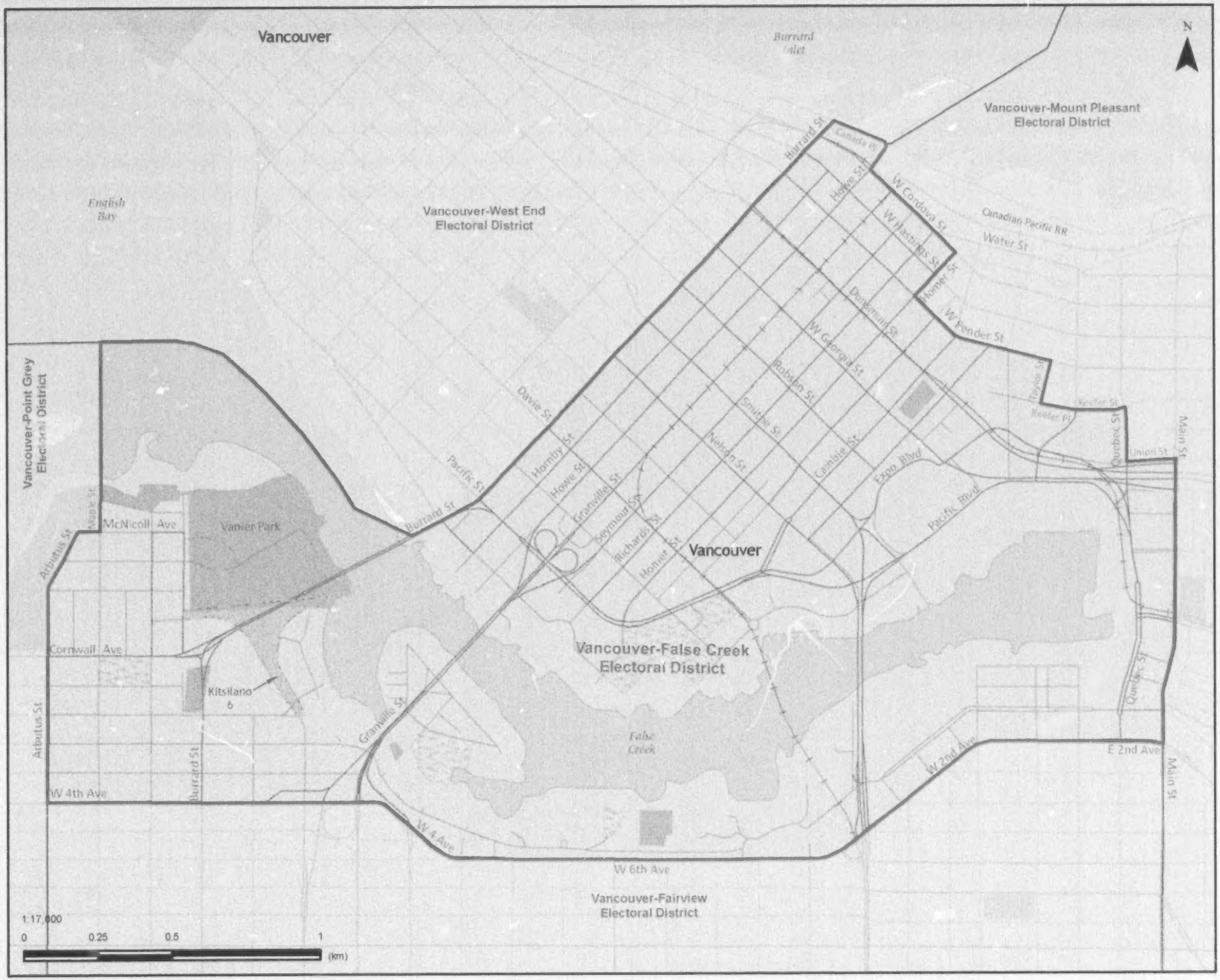
Vancouver-Kingsway




City of
North Vancouver
North Vancouver-Lonsdale
Electoral District
District Municipality of
North Vancouver
N
Burrard Inlet
Canadian Pacific RR
Commissioner St
McGill St
Boundary Rd
N Nanaimo St
N Renfrew St
Dundas St
Powell St
Victoria Dr
Commercial Dr
Exhibition
Park
Burnaby
E Hastings St
Trans Canada Hwy
Commercial Diversion
Adanac St
Vancouver-Hastings
Electoral District
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
Electoral District
Vancouver
Burnaby North
Electoral District
Rupert
Park
E 1st Ave
Lougheed Hwy
E Broadway
Burlington North Santa Fe RR
Nanaimo St
Renfrew St
Rupert St
E 12th Ave
Grandview Hwy
Grandview Hwy S
Vancouver-Kingsway
Electoral District
1:21,000
0
0.25
0.5
1
(km)

Vancouver-Mount Pleasant

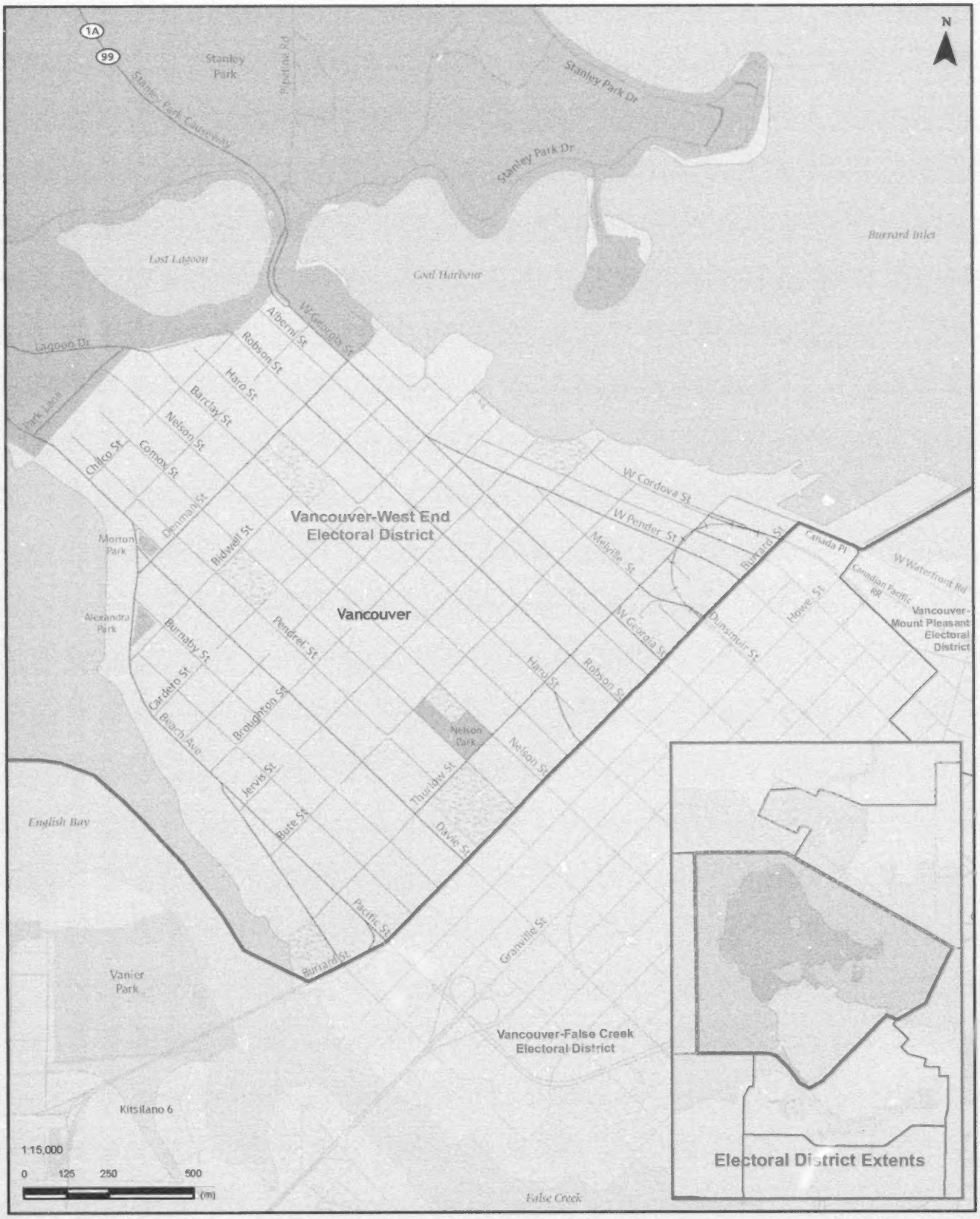


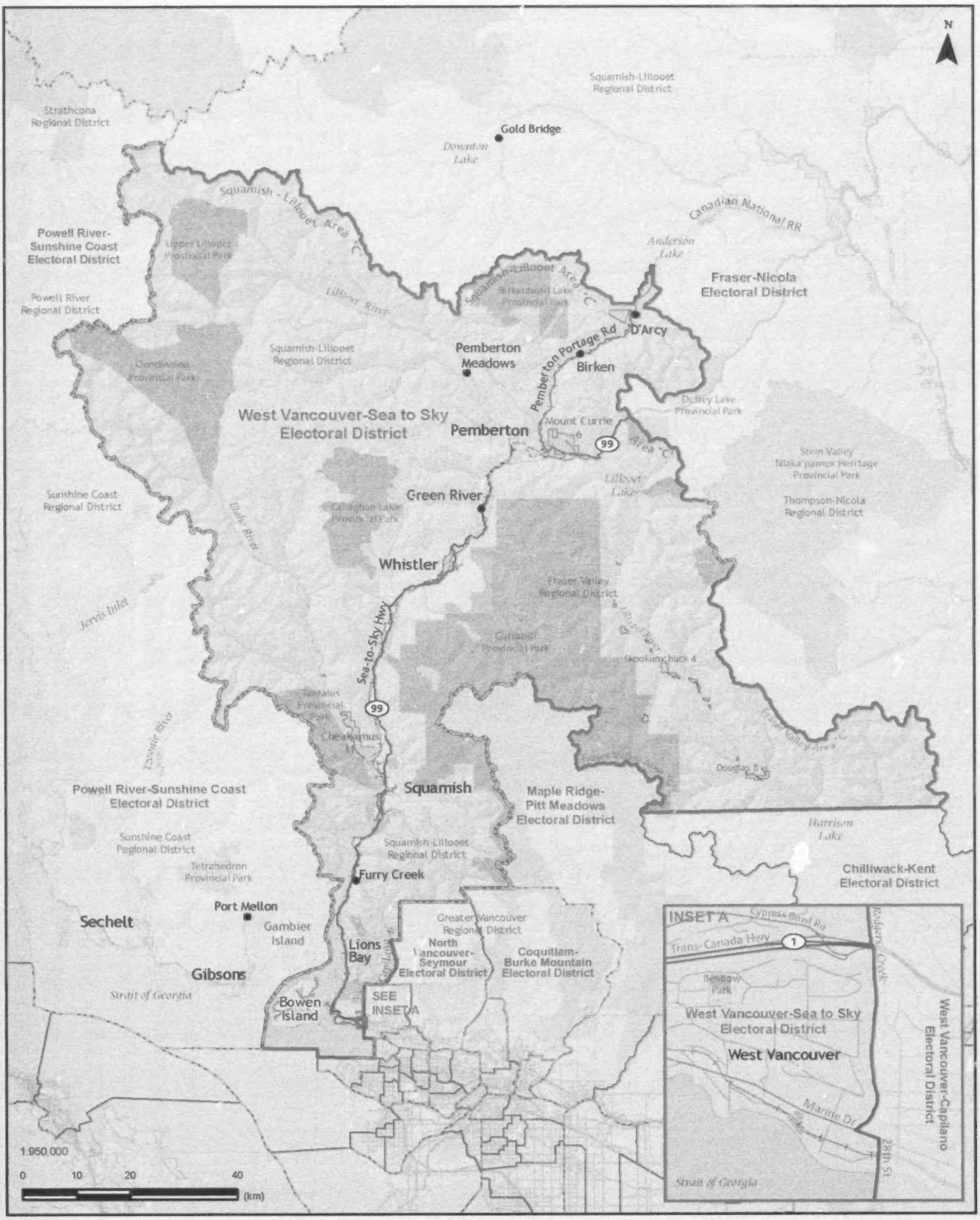


Proposals – Greater Vancouver

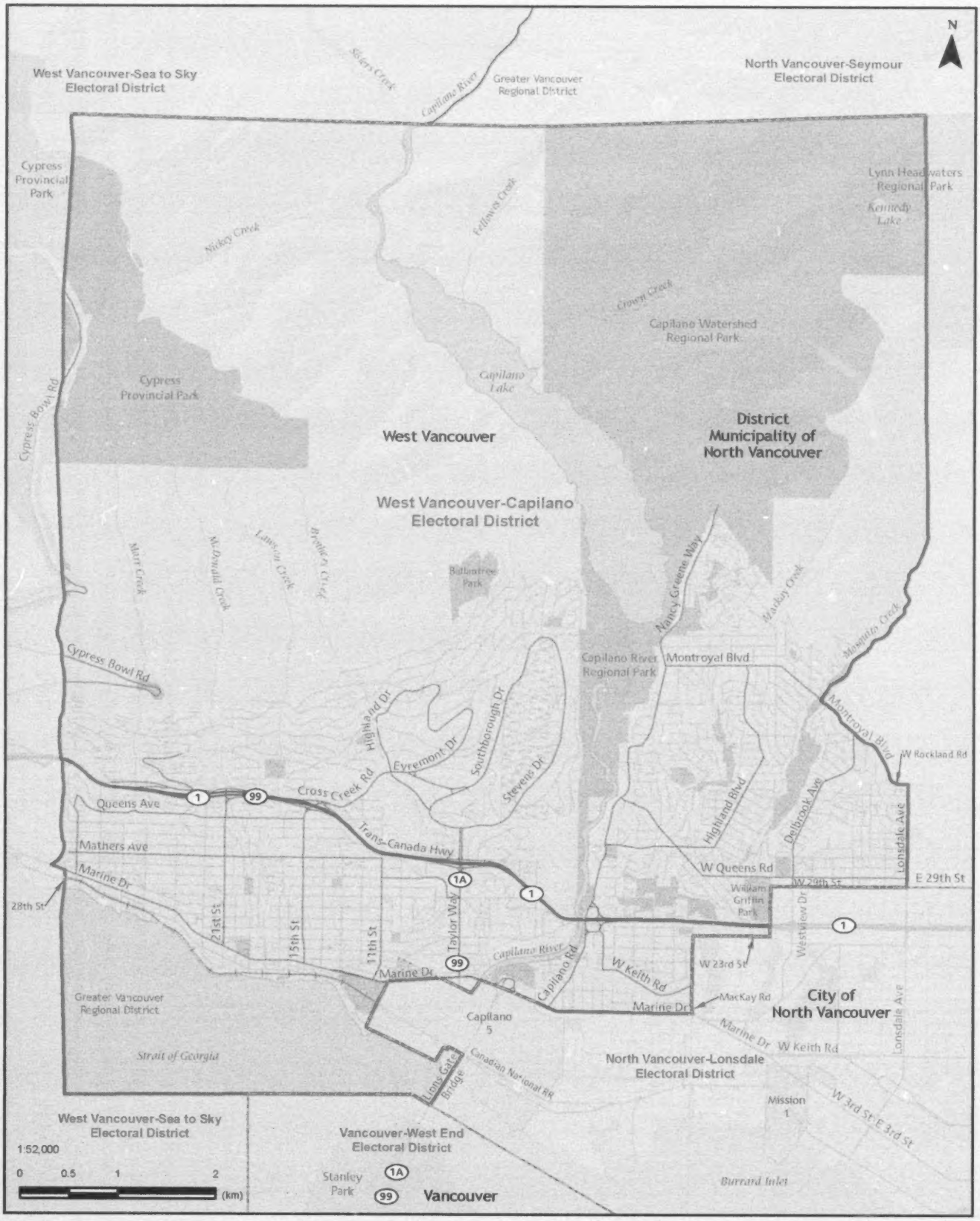
Vancouver-False Creek

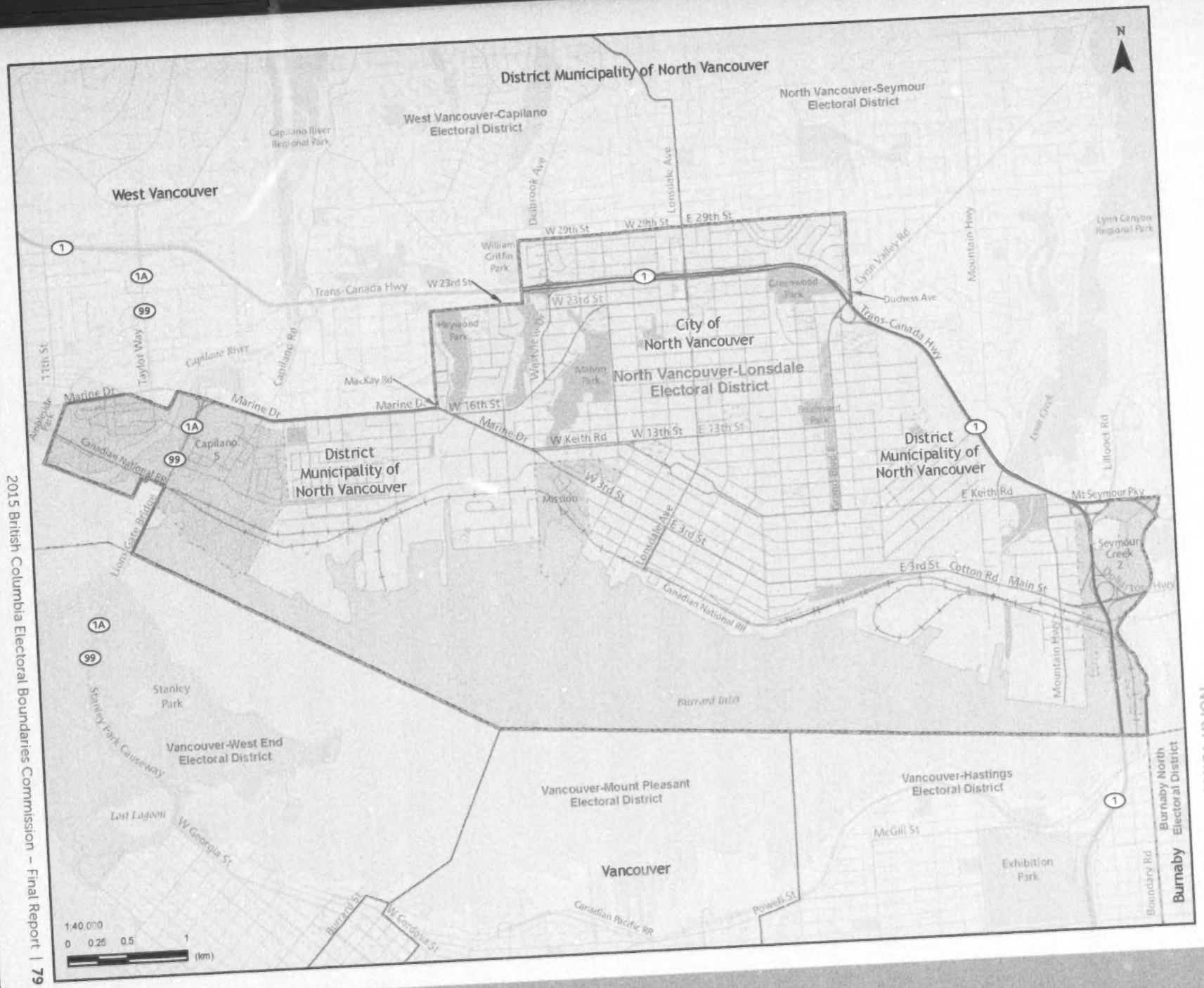
Vancouver-West End




N
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Strathcona Regional District
Gold Bridge
Downton Lake
Squamish - Lillooet Area 'C'
Canadian National RR
Anderson Lake
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Upper Lillooet Provincial Park
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Powell River Regional District
Lillooet River
Birkenhead Lake Provincial Park
D'Arcy
Pemberton Meadows
Pemberton Portage Rd
Birken
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Joffrey Lake Provincial Park
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky Electoral District
Pemberton
Mount Currie
99
Area 'C'
Stein Valley Nlaka'pamux Heritage Provincial Park
Lillooet Lake
Sunshine Coast Regional District
Green River
Callaghan Lake Provincial Park
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Elaho River
Whistler
Fraser Valley Regional District
Jervis Inlet
Sea-to-Sky Hwy
Garibaldi Provincial Park
Skookumchuck 4
Tantalus Provincial Park
99
Cheakamus 11
Fraser Valley 'A'
Douglas 8
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Squamish
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Electoral District
Harrison Lake
Sunshine Coast Regional District
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Tetrahedron Provincial Park
Furry Creek
Chilliwack-Kent Electoral District
Port Mellon
Sechelt
Gambier Island
Greater Vancouver Regional District
Lions Bay
North Vancouver-Seymour Electoral District
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain Electoral District
Gibsons
Strait of Georgia
Bowen Island
SEE INSET A
INSET A
Cypress Bowl Rd
Trans-Canada Hwy
1
Rodgers Creek
Bembow Park
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky Electoral District
West Vancouver
West Vancouver-Capilano Electoral District
Marine Dr
28th St
Strait of Georgia
1:950,000
0 10 20 40
(km)

West Vancouver-Capilano

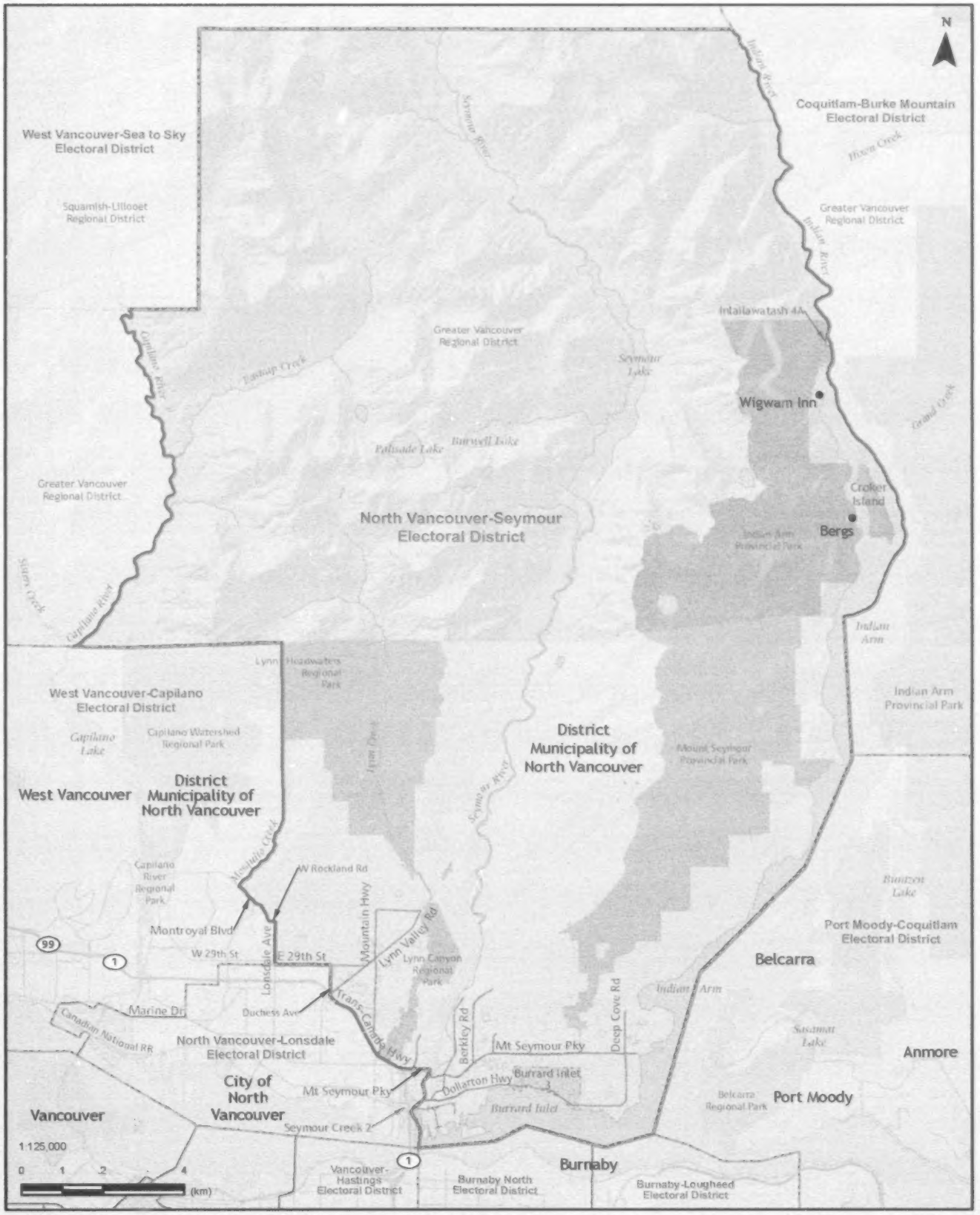


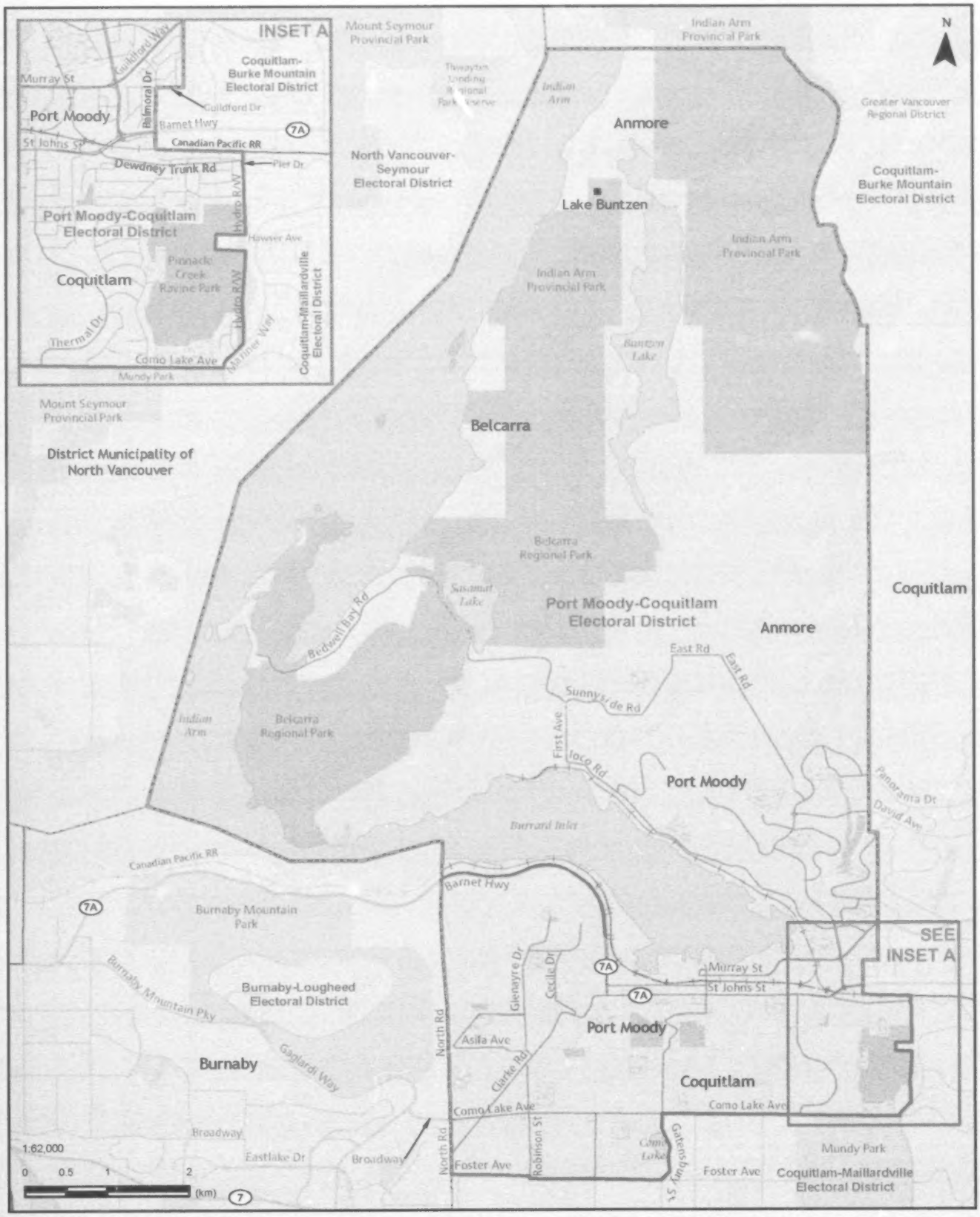


Proposals – Greater Vancouver

North Vancouver-Lonsdale

North Vancouver-Seymour




INSET A
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain Electoral District
Port Moody
Murray St
Guilford Way
Belmoral Dr
Guildford Dr
Barnet Hwy
7A
St Johns St
Canadian Pacific RR
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Pier Dr
Hydro ROW
Port Moody-Coquitlam Electoral District
Hawser Ave
Coquitlam
Pinnacle Creek Ravine Park
Thermal Dr
Como Lake Ave
Mariner Way
Coquitlam-Maillardville Electoral District
Mundy Park
Mount Seymour Provincial Park
North Vancouver-Seymour Electoral District
Indian Arm Provincial Park
Thwaytes Landing Regional Park Reserve
Indian Arm
N
Anmore
Greater Vancouver Regional District
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain Electoral District
Lake Buntzen
Buntzen Lake
Belcarra
District Municipality of North Vancouver
Belcarra Regional Park
Sasamat Lake
Bedwell Bay Rd
Port Moody-Coquitlam Electoral District
East Rd
Sunnyside Rd
First Ave
Ioco Rd
Port Moody
Panorama Dr
David Ave
Burrard Inlet
Canadian Pacific RR
Barnet Hwy
Burnaby Mountain Park
Burnaby Mountain Pky
Burnaby-Lougheed Electoral District
Burnaby
Gaglardi Way
Glenayre Dr
Cecile Dr
North Rd
Asila Ave
Clarke Rd
Como Lake Ave
Broadway
Eastlake Dr
Foster Ave
Robinson St
Gatensbury St
Mundy Park
SEE INSET A
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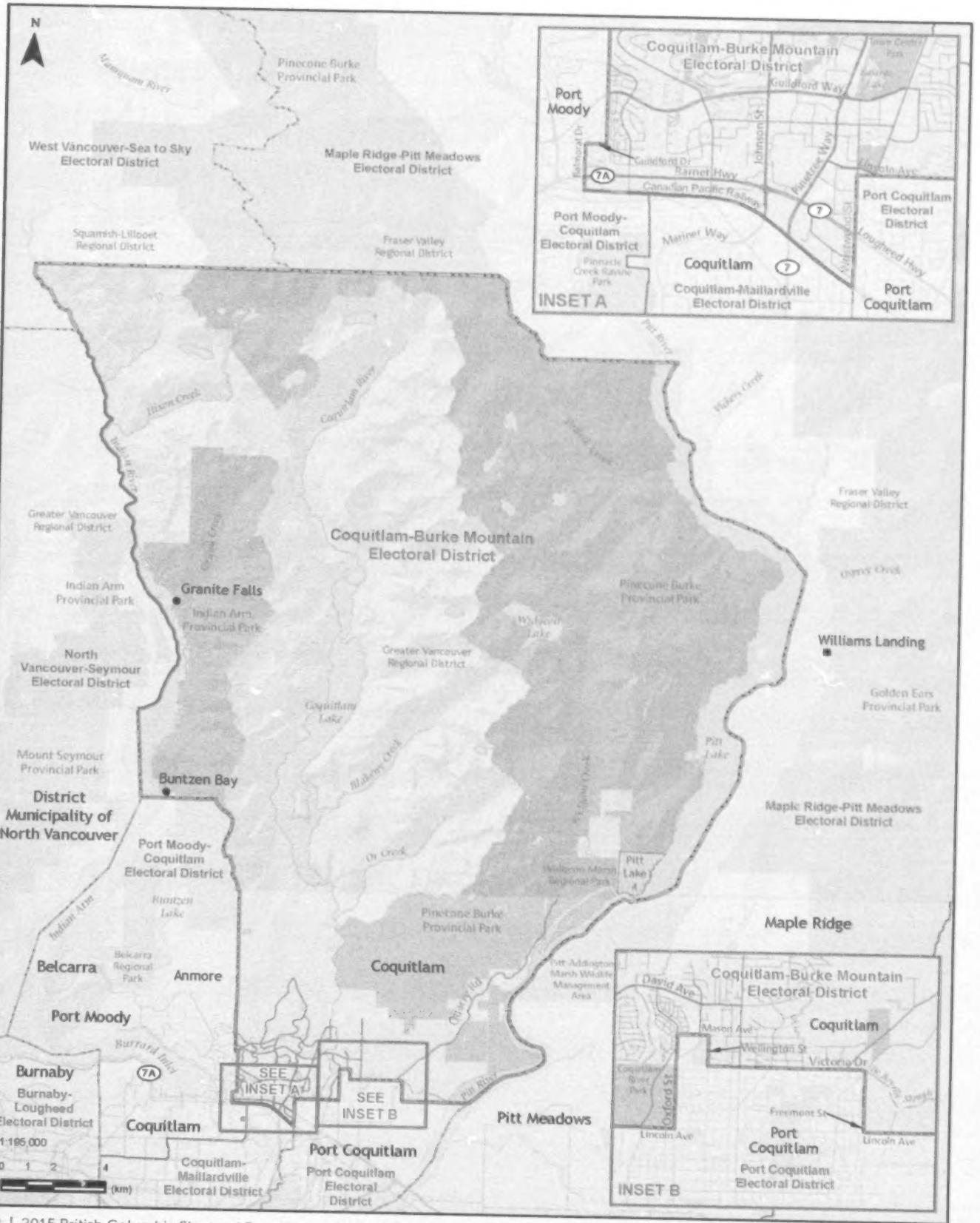
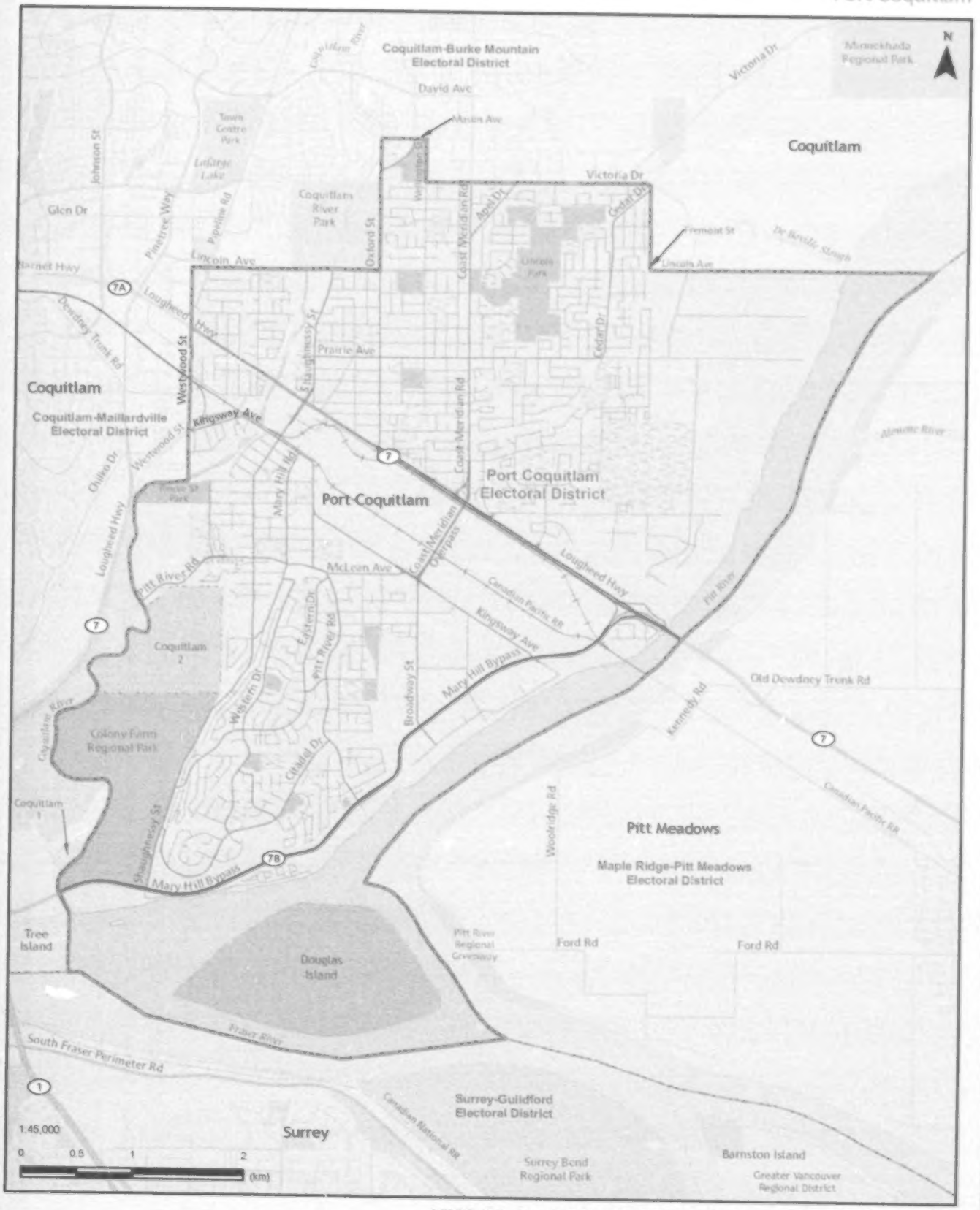
0 0.5 1 2 (km)
7

Coquitlam-Burke Mountain




Coquitlam-Burke Mountain Electoral District
Coquitlam
Coquitlam-Maillardville Electoral District
Port Coquitlam
Port Coquitlam Electoral District
Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Electoral District
Surrey
Surrey-Guildford Electoral District
Tree Island
Douglas Island
Barnston Island
Colony Farm Regional Park
Minnekhada Regional Park
Coquitlam River Park
Town Centre Park
LaSalle Lake
Lincoln Park
Pitt River Regional Greenway
Surrey Bend Regional Park
Greater Vancouver Regional District
David Ave
Victoria Dr
Glen Dr
Barnet Hwy
Lincoln Ave
Fremont St
Prairie Ave
Kingsway Ave
McLean Ave
Pitt River Rd
Mary Hill Bypass
Old Dewdney Trunk Rd
Ford Rd
South Fraser Perimeter Rd
Fraser River
Coquitlam River
Pitt River
Johnson St
Pinetree Way
Pipeline Rd
Oxford St
Coast Meridian Rd
Cedar Dr
Westwood St
Dewdney Trunk Rd
Lougheed Hwy
Eagle Mountain
Mary Hill Rd
Coast Meridian Overpass
Canadian Pacific Rail
Eastern Dr
Broadway St
Woodridge Rd
Kennedy Rd
Shaughnessy St
Glenaid Dr
Canadian National Rail
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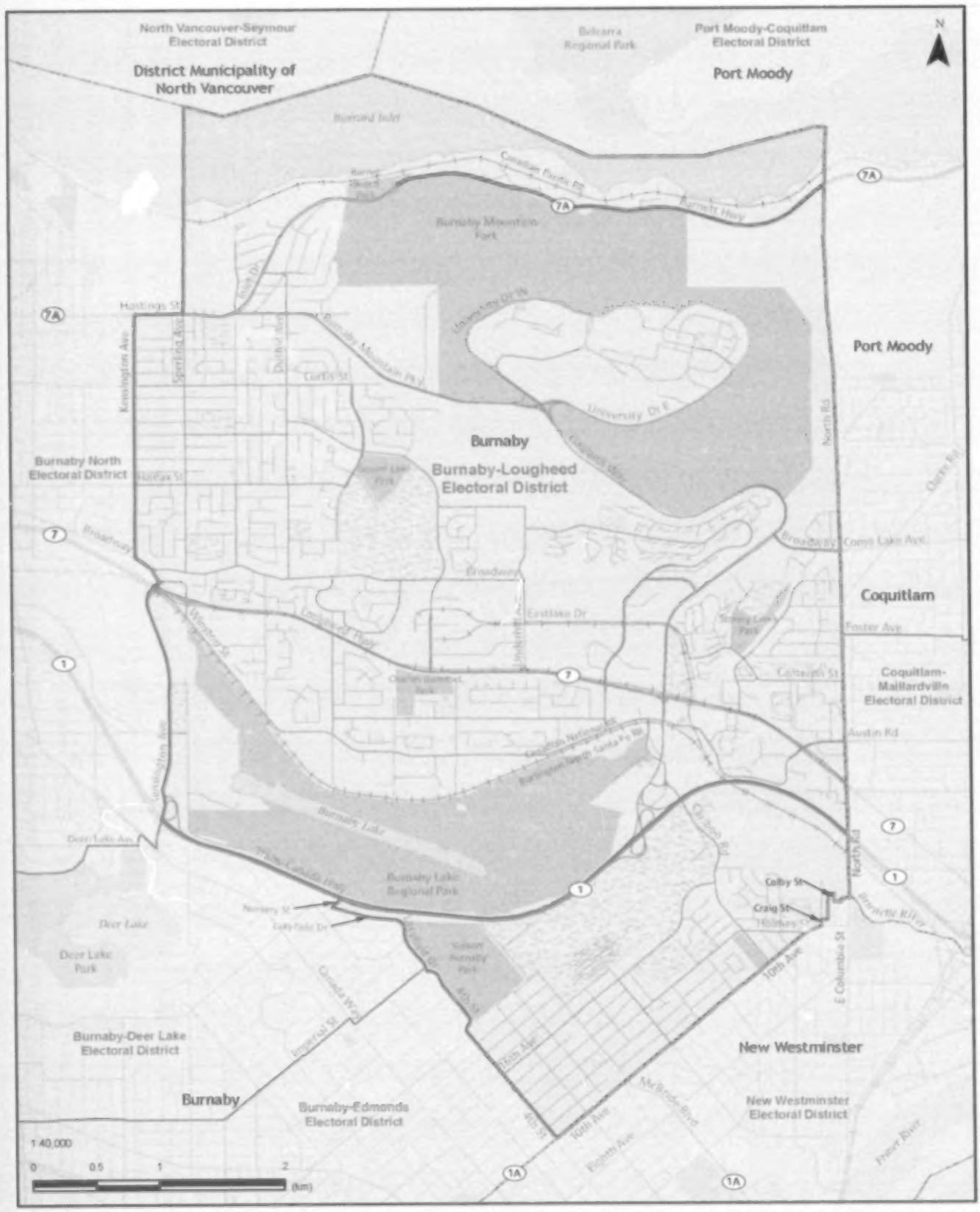
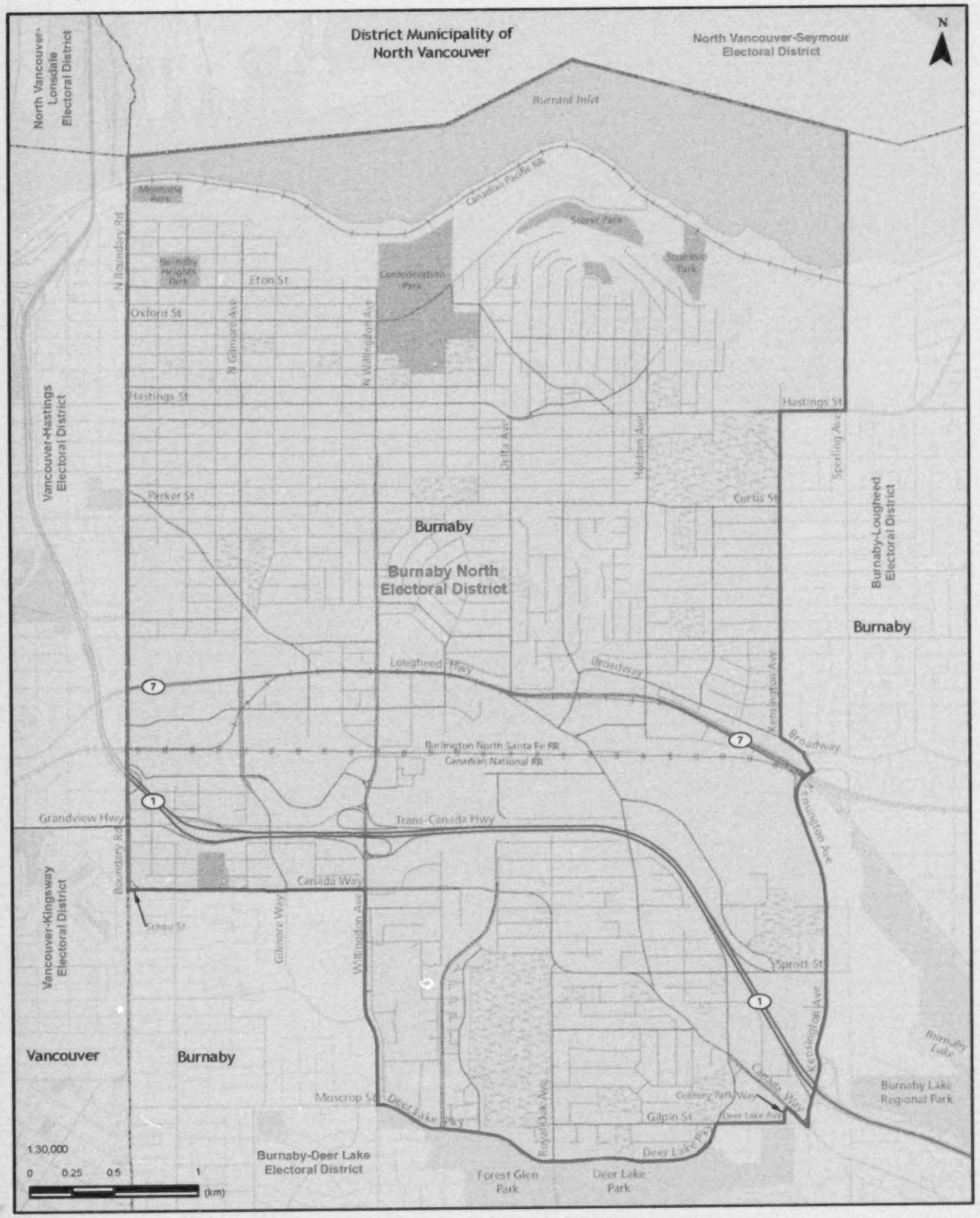
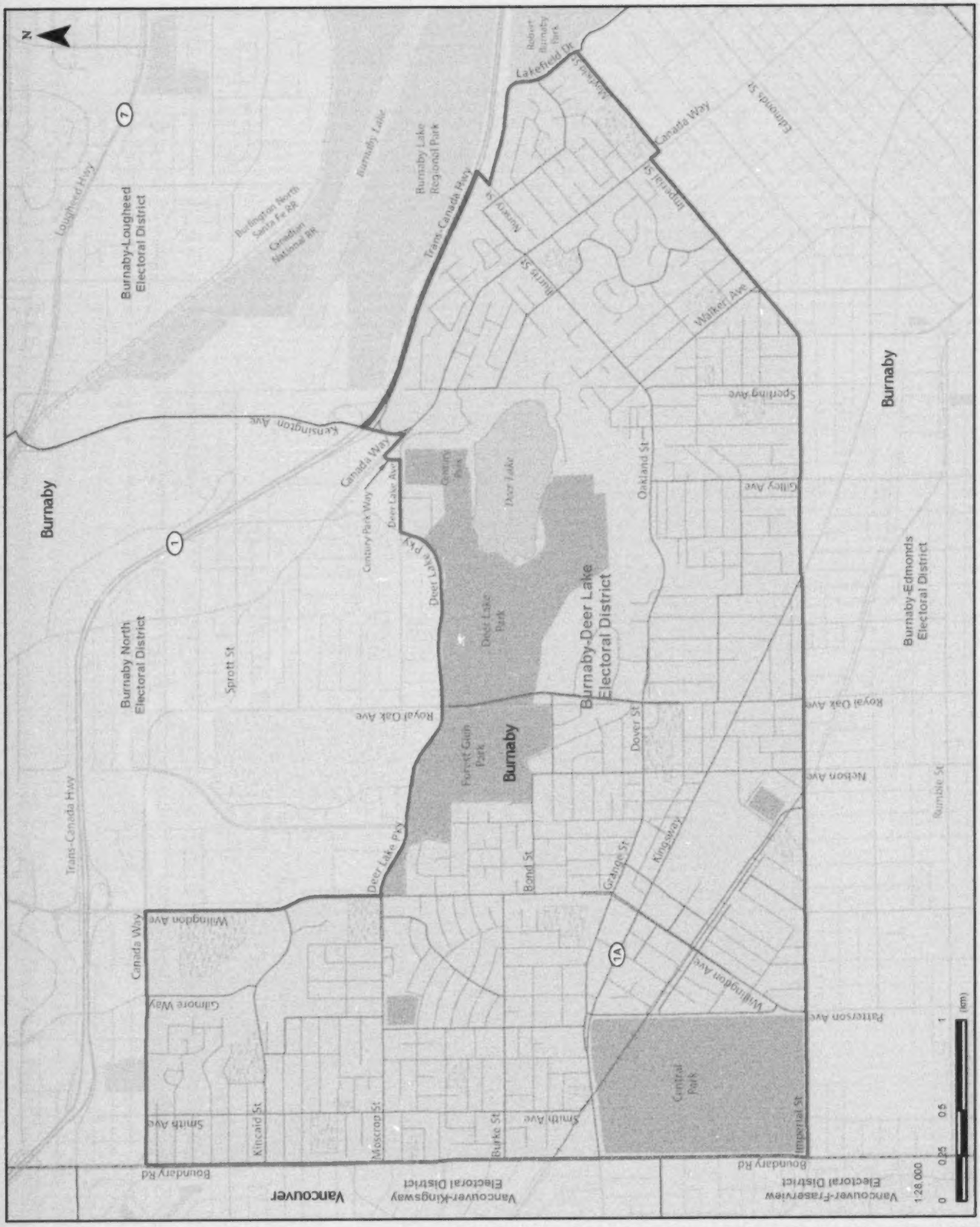
Coquitlam-Maillardville


North Vancouver-Seymour Electoral District
District Municipality of North Vancouver
Belcarra Regional Park
Port Moody-Coquitlam Electoral District
Port Moody
N
Burrard Inlet
Canadian Pacific Rly
Burnaby Mountain Park
Barnet Hwy
7A
Hastings St
Kensington Ave
Sperling Ave
Dalby Ave
Curtis St
Burnaby Mountain Pkwy
University Dr W
University Dr E
Port Moody
North Rd
Burnaby
Burnaby-Lougheed Electoral District
Burnaby North Electoral District
Douglas St
Broadway
Como Lake Ave
Coquitlam
Eastlake Dr
Foster Ave
Coquitlam-Maillardville Electoral District
Austin Rd
Deer Lake Ave
Burnaby Lake
Burnaby Lake Regional Park
Colby St
Craig St
Deer Lake
Deer Lake Park
Nursery St
Lake Fale Dr
Gilmore Burnaby Park
Canada Way
Imperial St
10th Ave
E Columbia St
Burnaby-Deer Lake Electoral District
New Westminster
Burnaby
Burnaby-Edmonds Electoral District
New Westminster Electoral District
McBride Blvd
Eighth Ave
Fraser River
1:40,000
0
0.5
1
2
(km)
1A

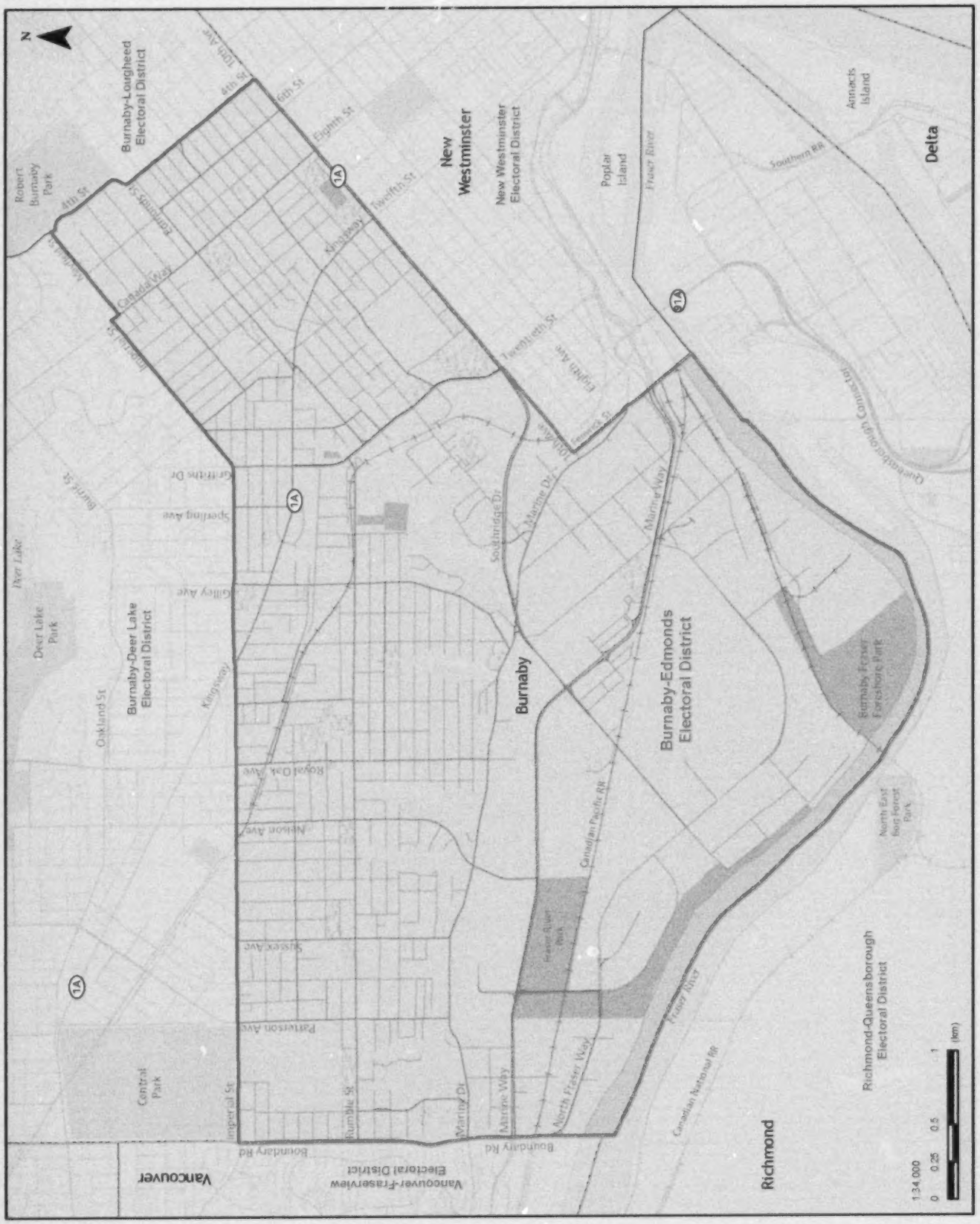
Burnaby North

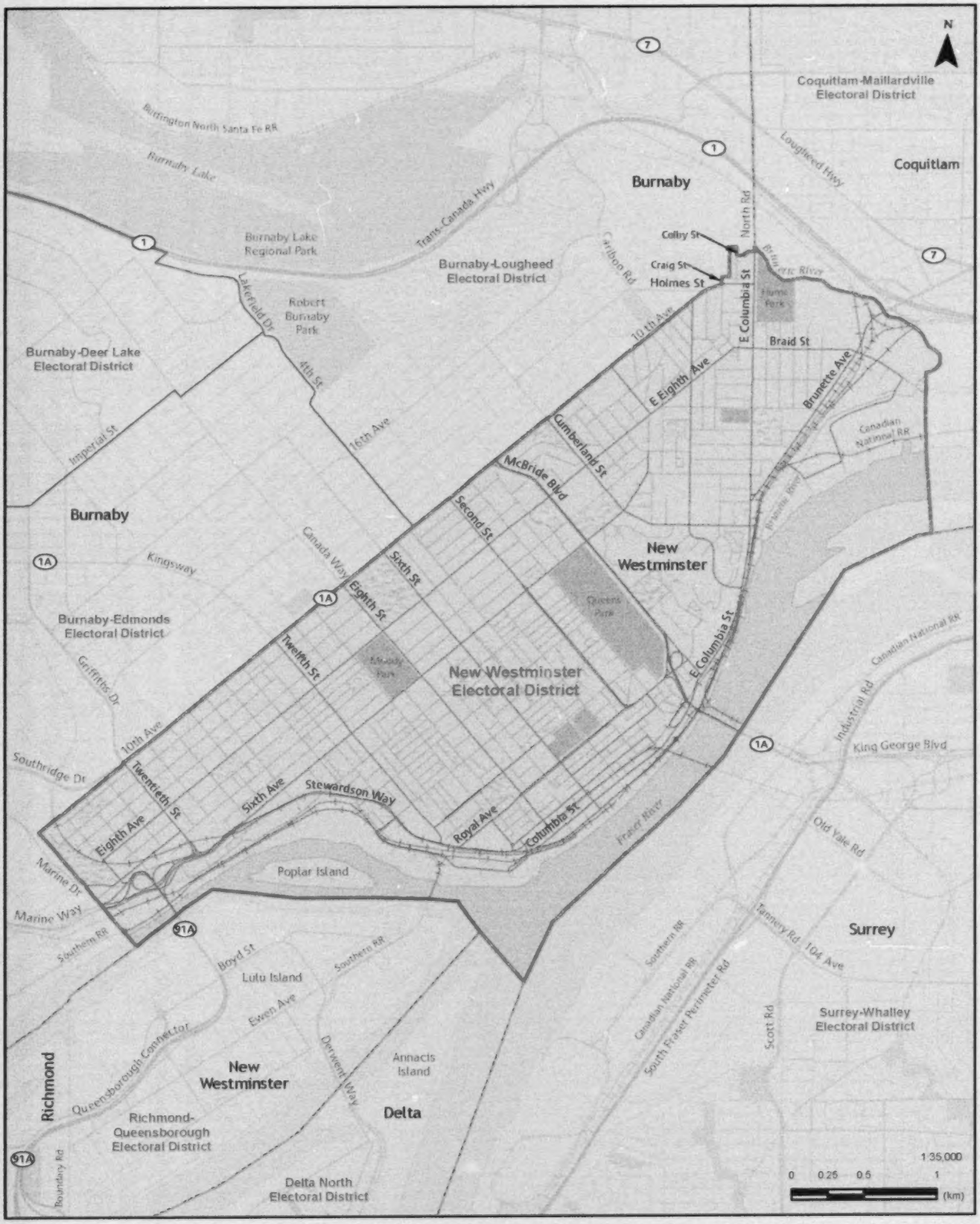


Burnaby-Deer Lake

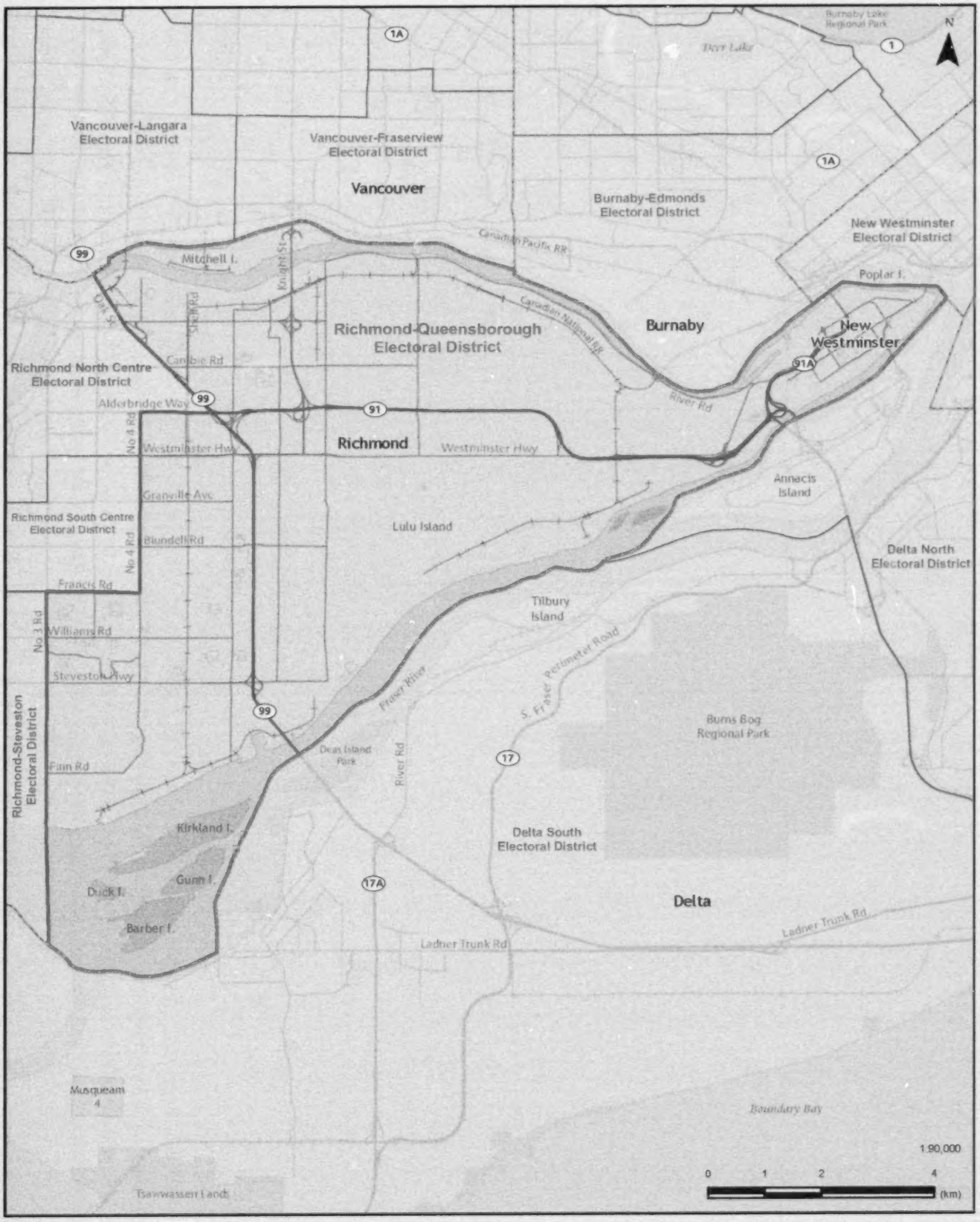


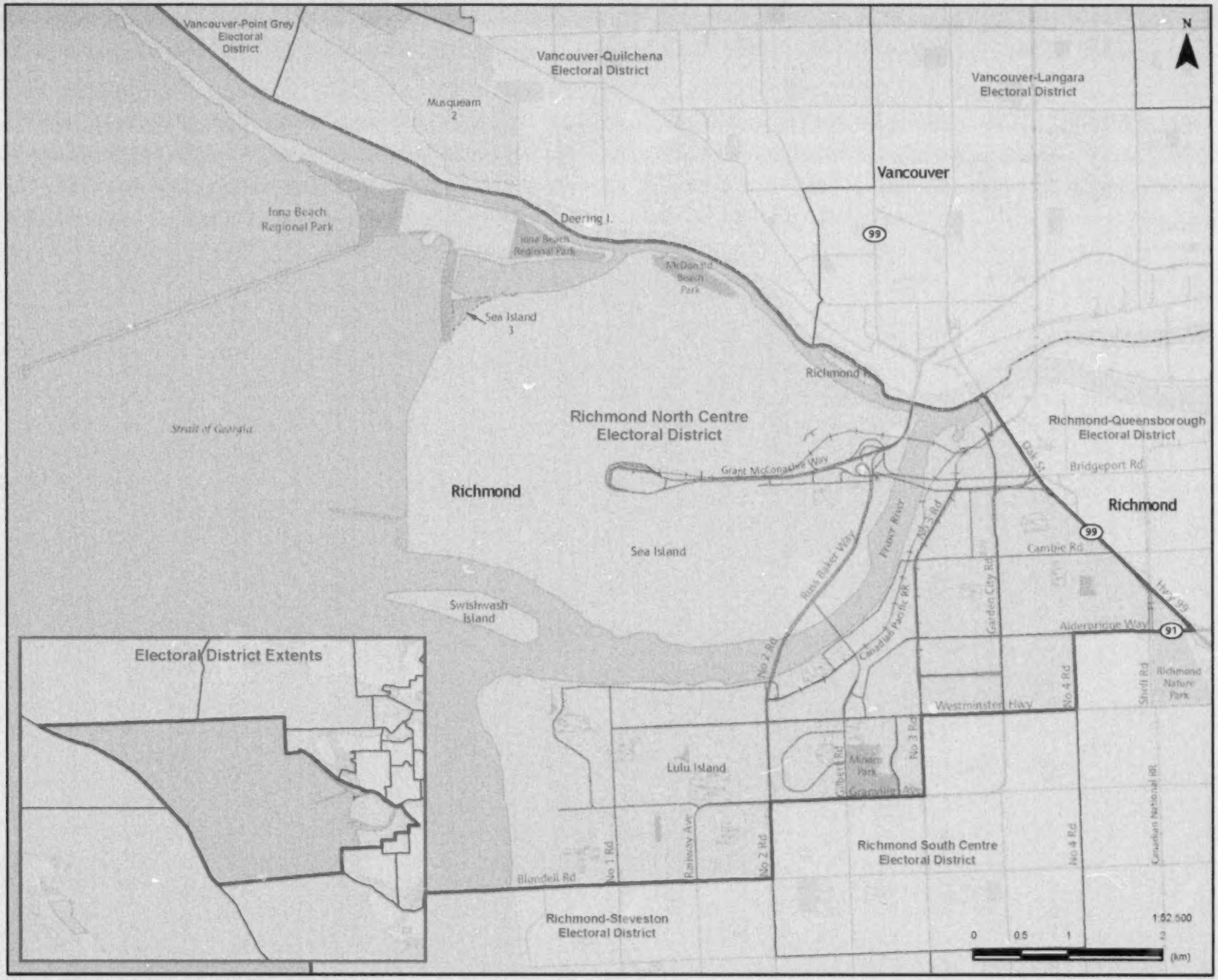
Burnaby-Edmonds




N
Coquitlam-Maillardville Electoral District
Burlington North Santa Fe RR
Burnaby Lake
Trans-Canada Hwy
Lougheed Hwy
Coquitlam
Burnaby
Burnaby Lake Regional Park
Burnaby-Lougheed Electoral District
Colby St
Craig St
Holmes St
North Rd
Caribou Rd
Fraser River
Robert Burnaby Park
Lakefield Dr
Burnaby-Deer Lake Electoral District
4th St
16th Ave
10th Ave
E Columbia St
Braid St
Brunette Ave
E Eighth Ave
Canadian National RR
Imperial St
Cumberland St
McBride Blvd
Second St
Burnaby
New Westminster
Canada Way
Sixth St
Kingsway
Eighth St
Queens Park
Burnaby-Edmonds Electoral District
Twelfth St
Griffiths Dr
New Westminster Electoral District
E Columbia St
Canadian National RR
Industrial Rd
10th Ave
King George Blvd
Southridge Dr
Twentieth St
Sixth Ave
Stewardson Way
Eighth Ave
Royal Ave
Columbia St
Fraser River
Old Yale Rd
Poplar Island
Marine Dr
Marine Way
Southern RR
Surrey
Tannery Rd
104 Ave
Boyd St
Lulu Island
Southern RR
Canadian National RR
South Fraser Perimeter Rd
Scott Rd
Surrey-Whalley Electoral District
Ewen Ave
Queensborough Connector
Annacis Island
Derwent Way
Richmond
New Westminster
Delta
Richmond-Queensborough Electoral District
Boundary Rd
Delta North Electoral District
1:35,000
0 0.25 0.5 1
(km)

Richmond-Queensborough

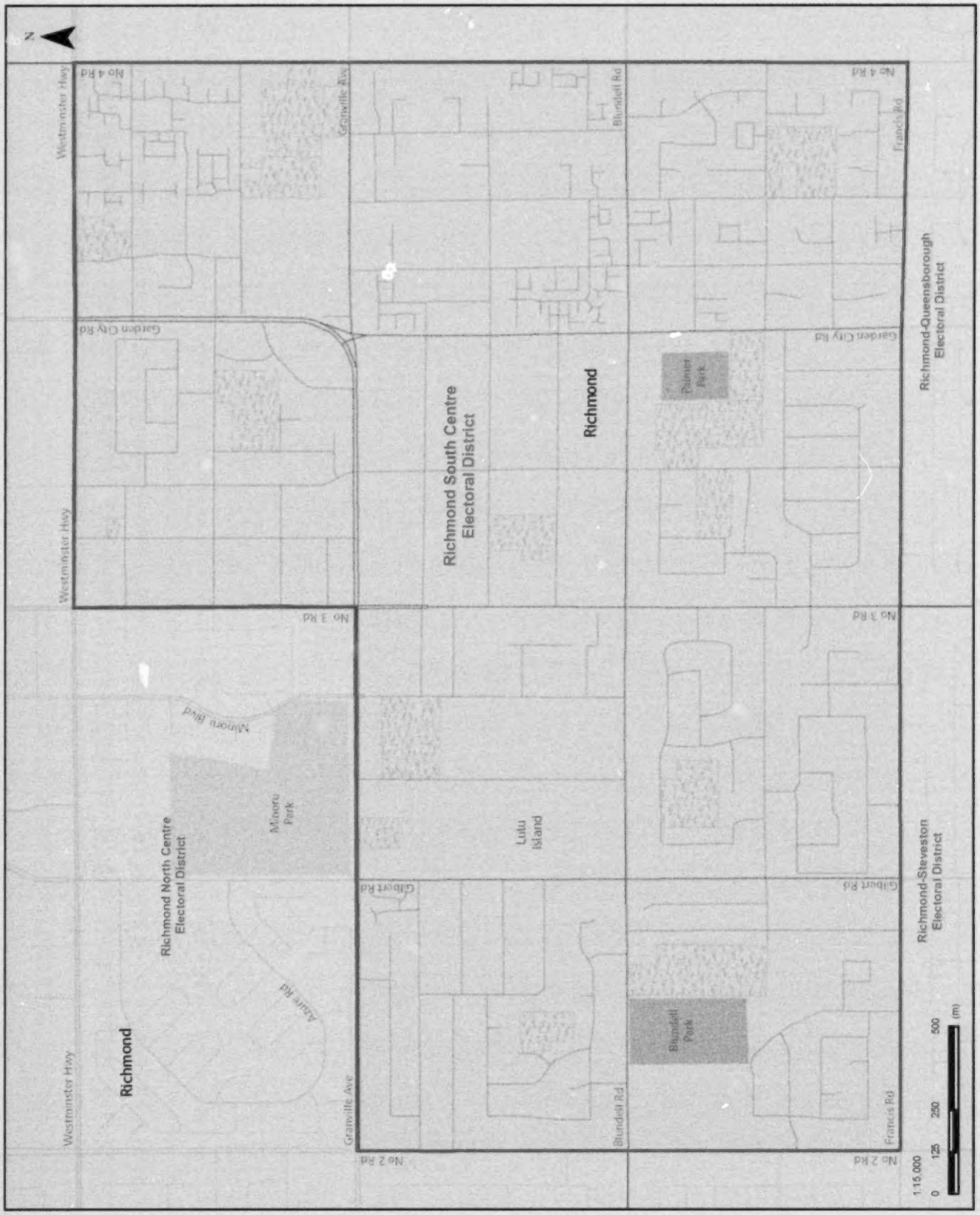




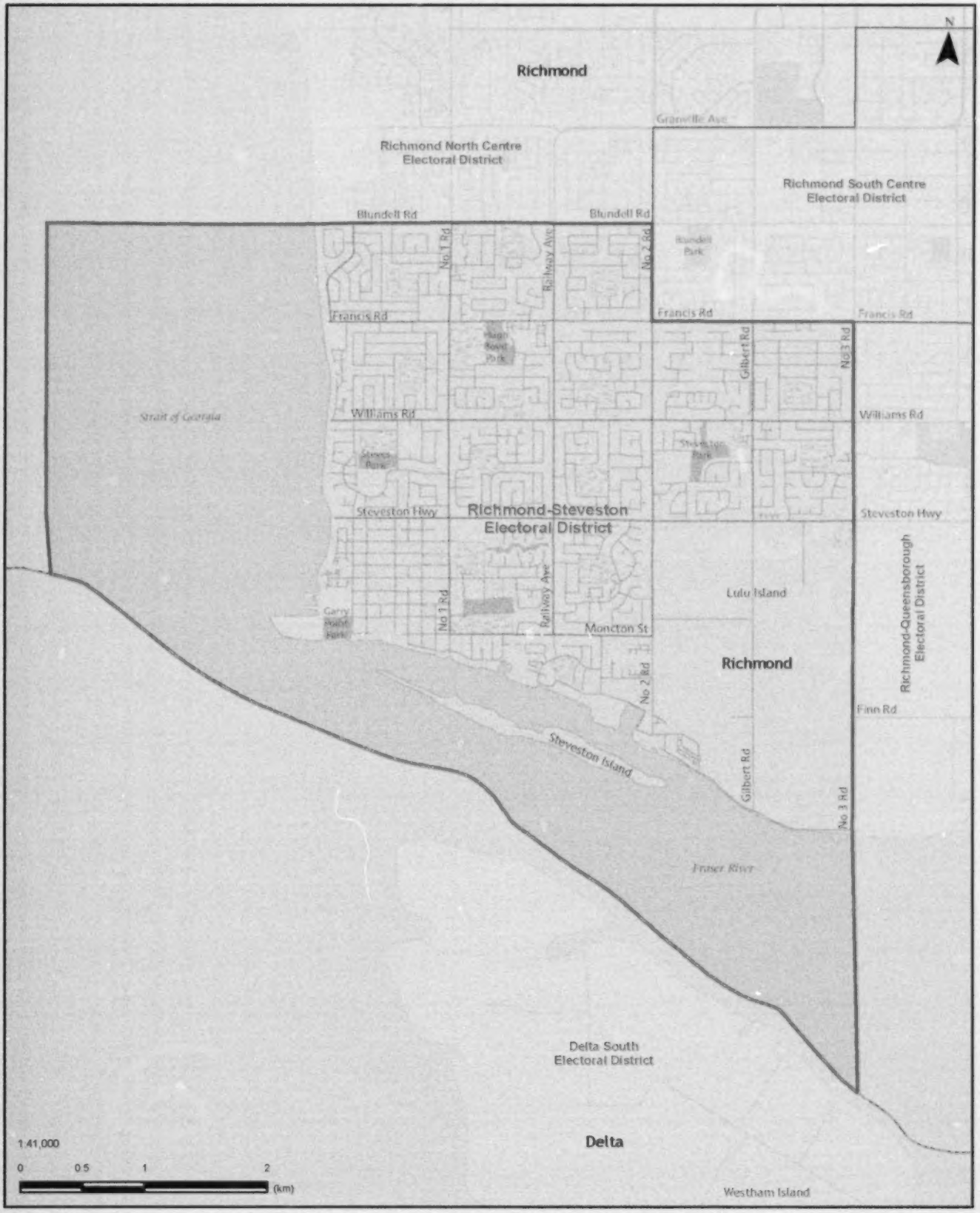
Proposals – Greater Vancouver

Richmond North Centre

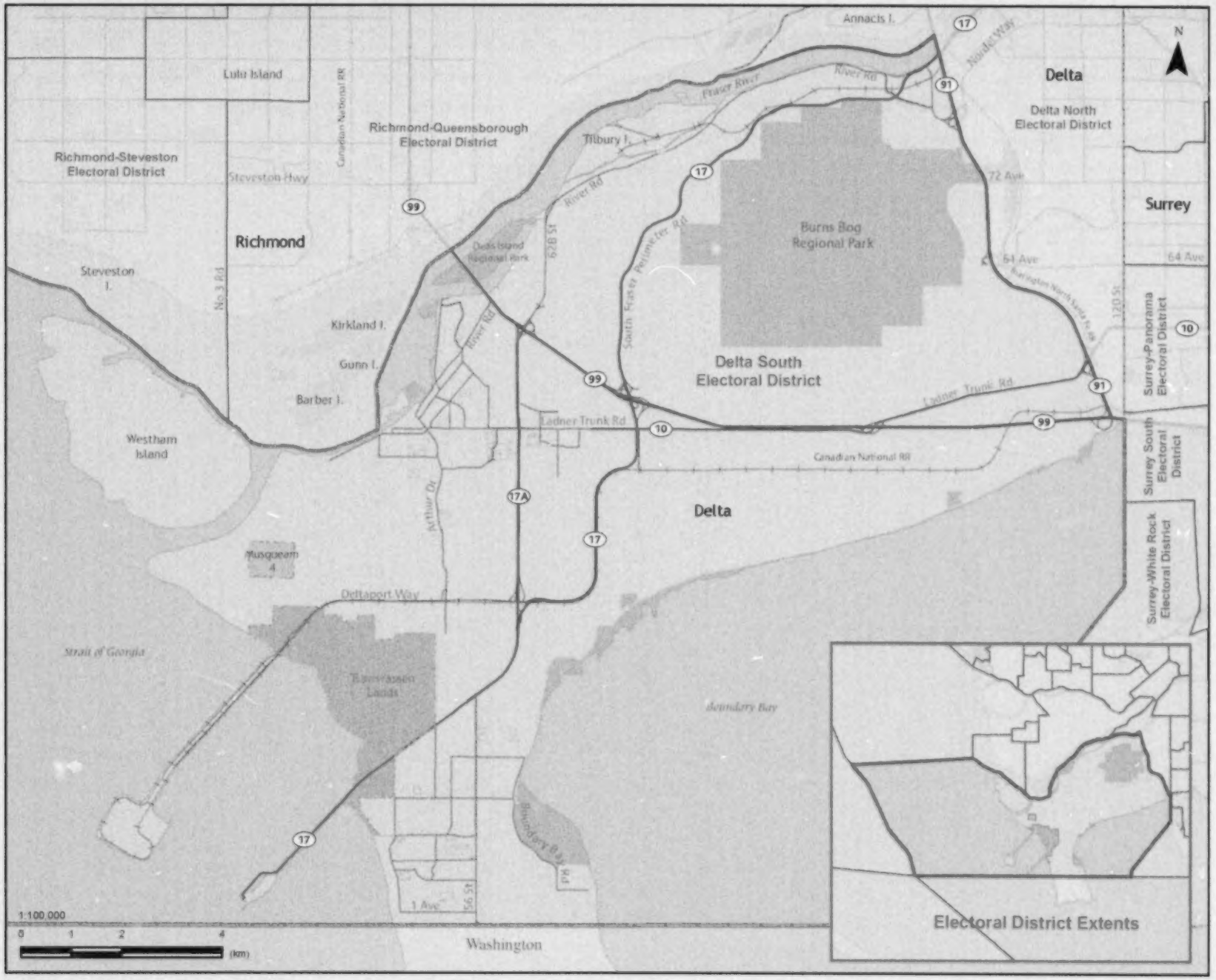
Richmond South Centre



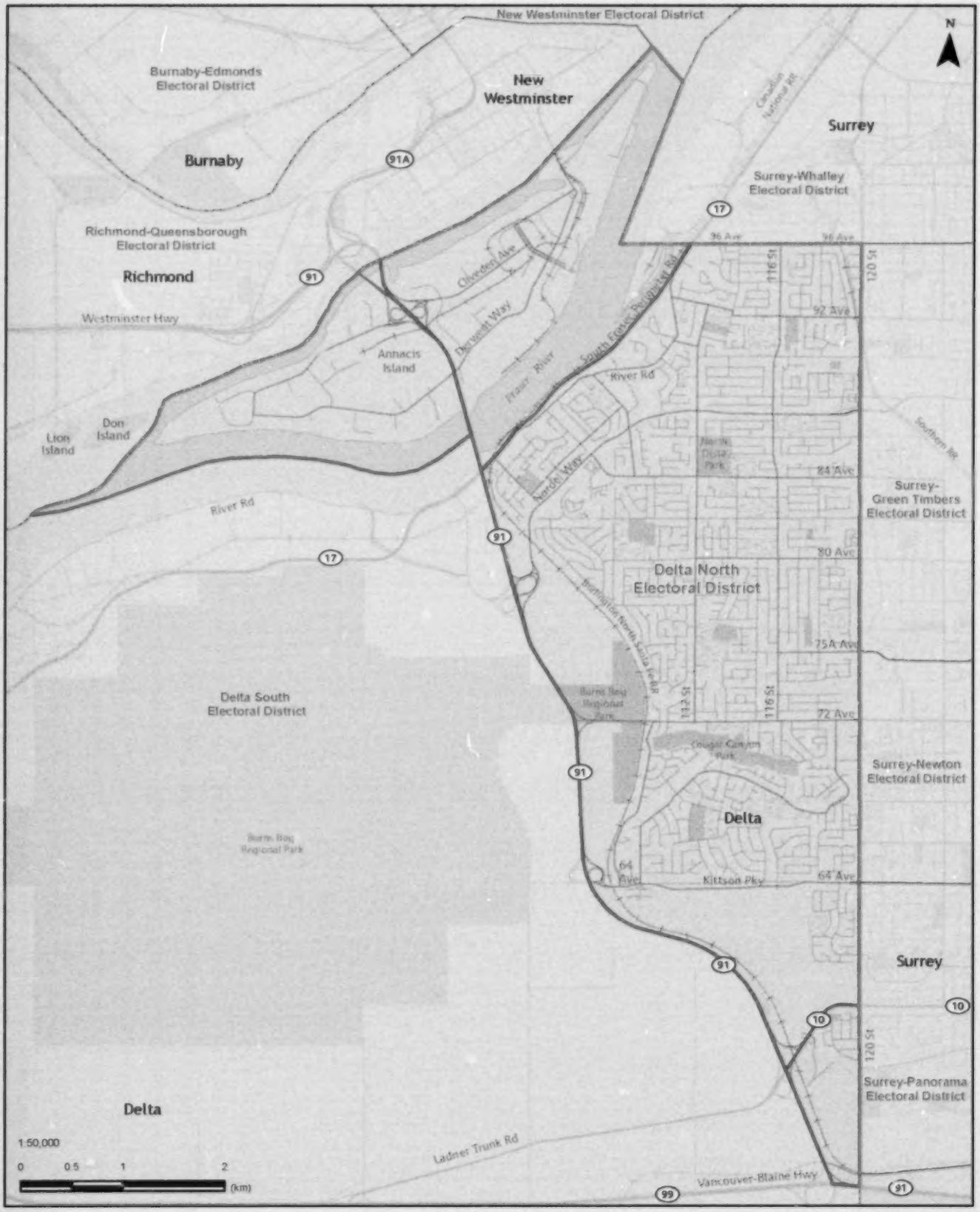
Richmond-Steveston



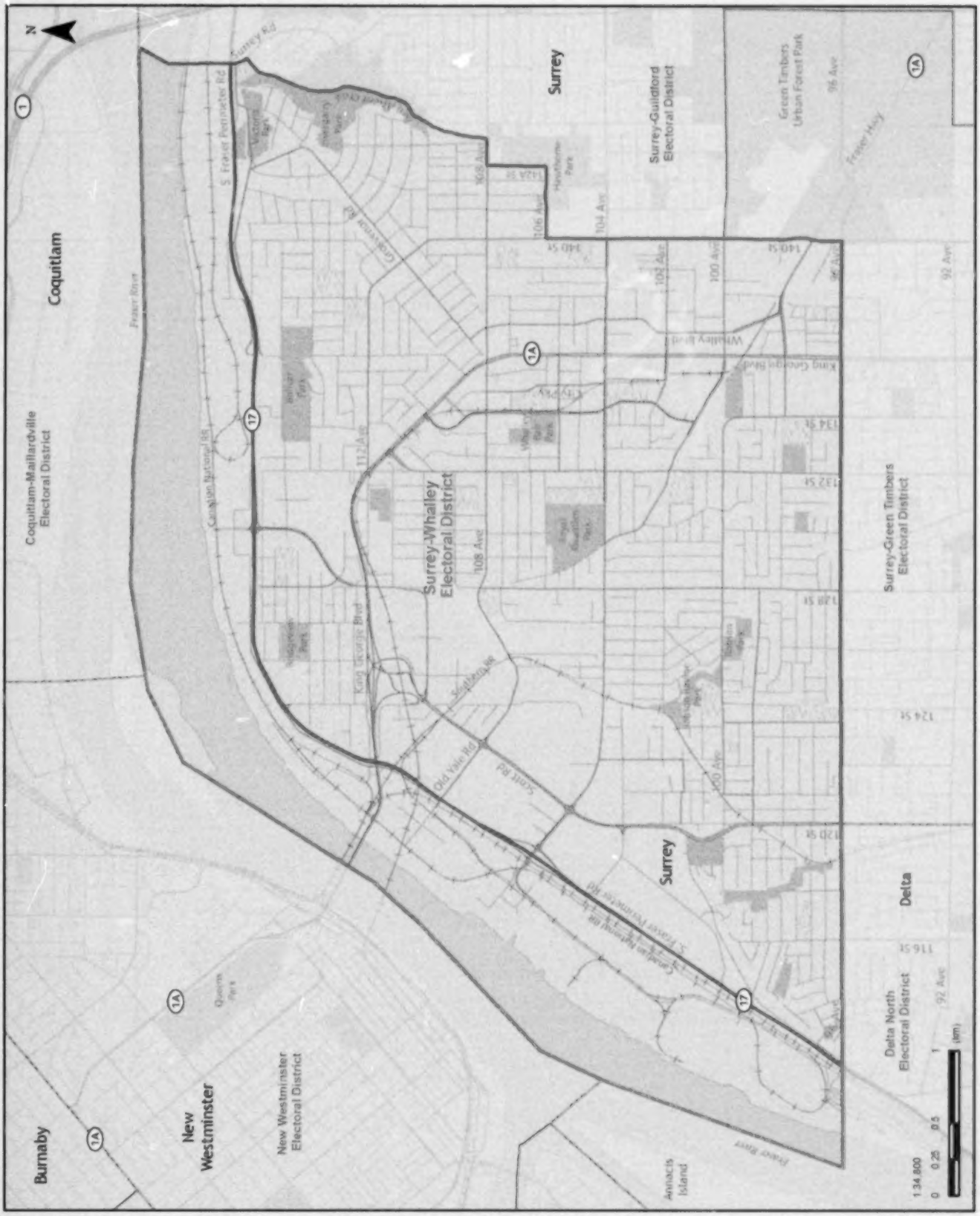
Delta South

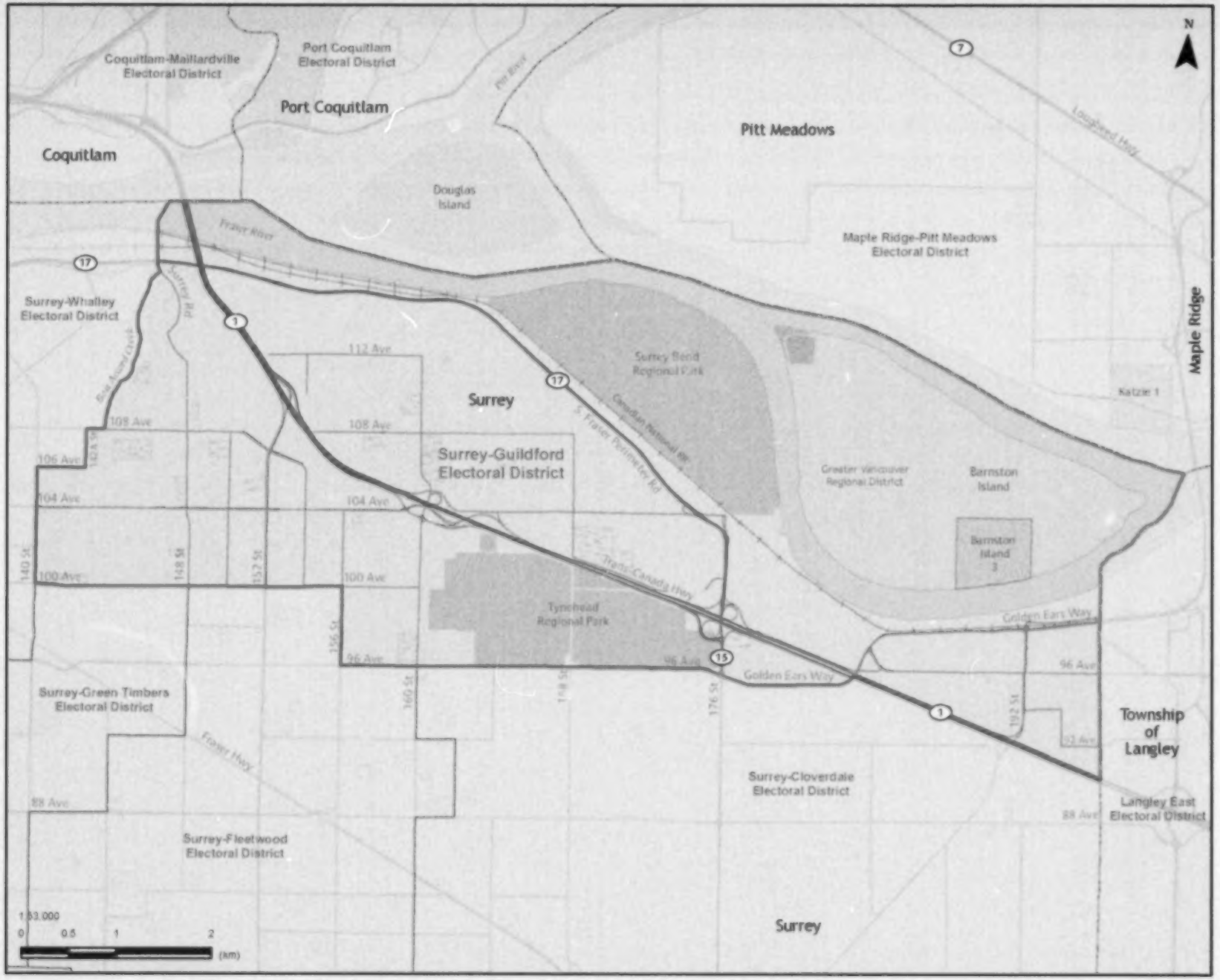

Annacis I.
Nordel Way
Delta
Delta North Electoral District
N
Lulu Island
Richmond-Queensborough Electoral District
Richmond-Steveston Electoral District
Canadian National RR
Fraser River
River Rd
Tilbury I.
Steveston Hwy
Richmond
72 Ave
Surrey
Burns Bog Regional Park
Deas Island Regional Park
64 Ave
Steveston I.
No 3 Rd
Kirkland I.
Gunn I.
Barber I.
Westham Island
Delta South Electoral District
Surrey-Panorama Electoral District
Surrey South Electoral District
Surrey-White Rock Electoral District
Ladner Trunk Rd
Canadian National RR
Arthur Dr
Delta
Musqueam 4
Deltaport Way
Strait of Georgia
Boundary Bay
Washington
1:100,000
0 1 2 4
(km)
Electoral District Extents

Delta North


New Westminster Electoral District
N
Burnaby-Edmonds Electoral District
New Westminster
Burnaby
91A
Surrey
Surrey-Whalley Electoral District
17
Richmond-Queensborough Electoral District
Richmond
91
Westminster Hwy
Chedderi Ave
Derwent Way
Annacis Island
Fraser River
South Fraser Perimeter Rd
River Rd
Lion Island
Don Island
Nordel Way
North Delta Park
Southern Rd
Surrey-Green Timbers Electoral District
Delta North Electoral District
Burlington Northern Santa Fe RR
Delta South Electoral District
Burns Bog Regional Park
Cougar Canyon Park
Surrey-Newton Electoral District
Delta
Kittson Pky
Surrey
10
Surrey-Panorama Electoral District
Ladner Trunk Rd
Vancouver-Blaine Hwy
99
1:50,000
0 0.5 1 2
(km)

Surrey-Whalley



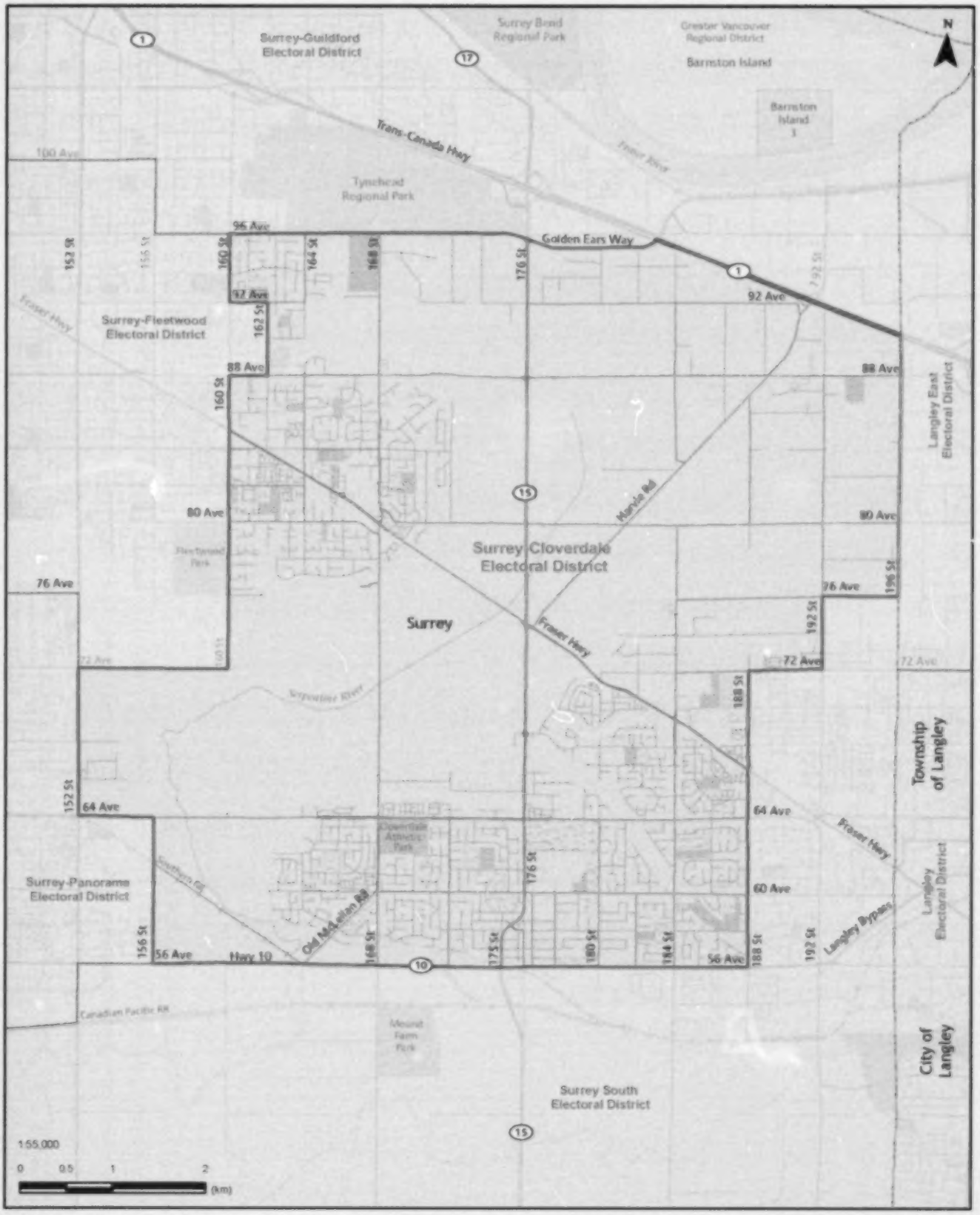


Surrey-Guildford

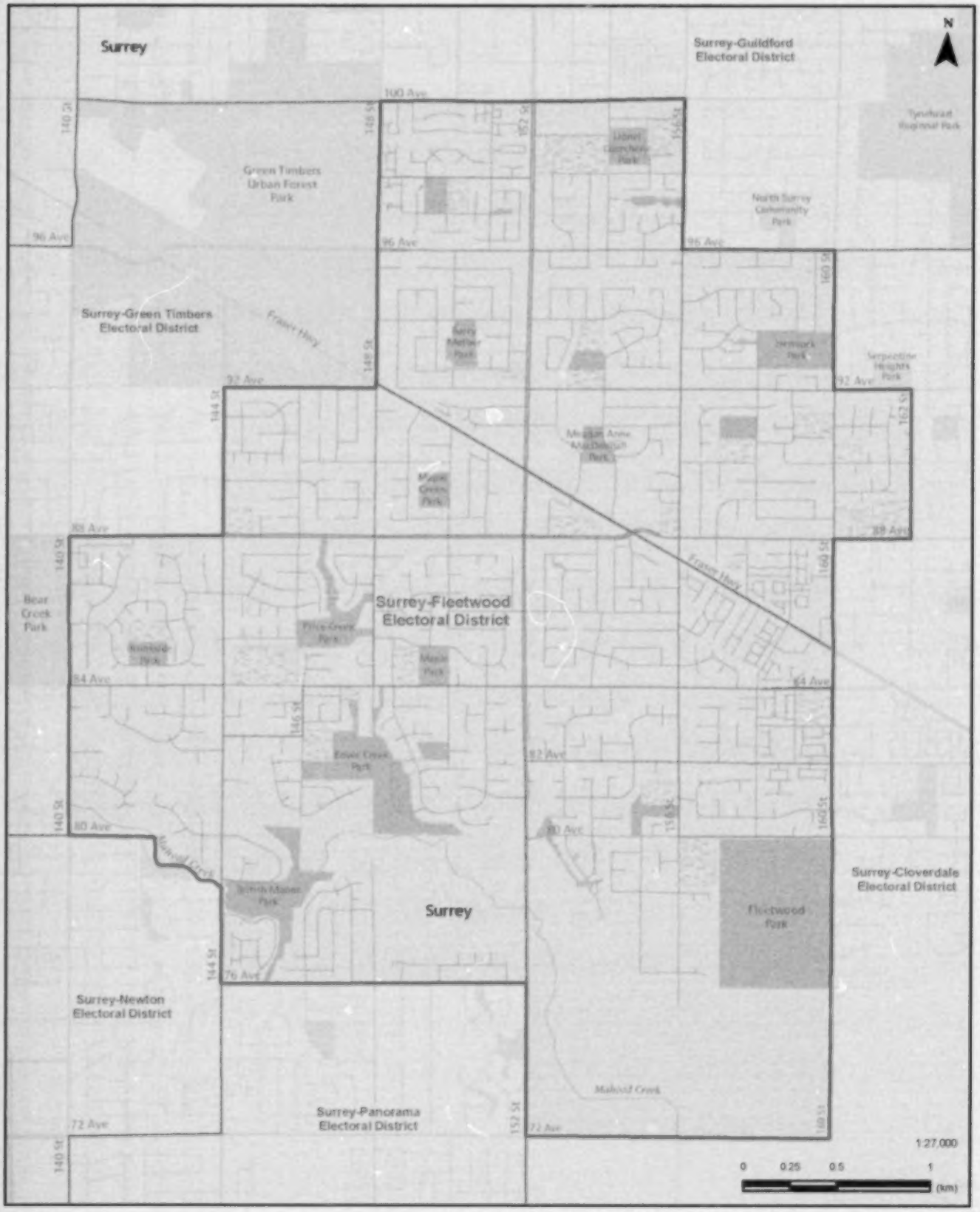
Proposals – Greater Vancouver

Proposals – Greater Vancouver

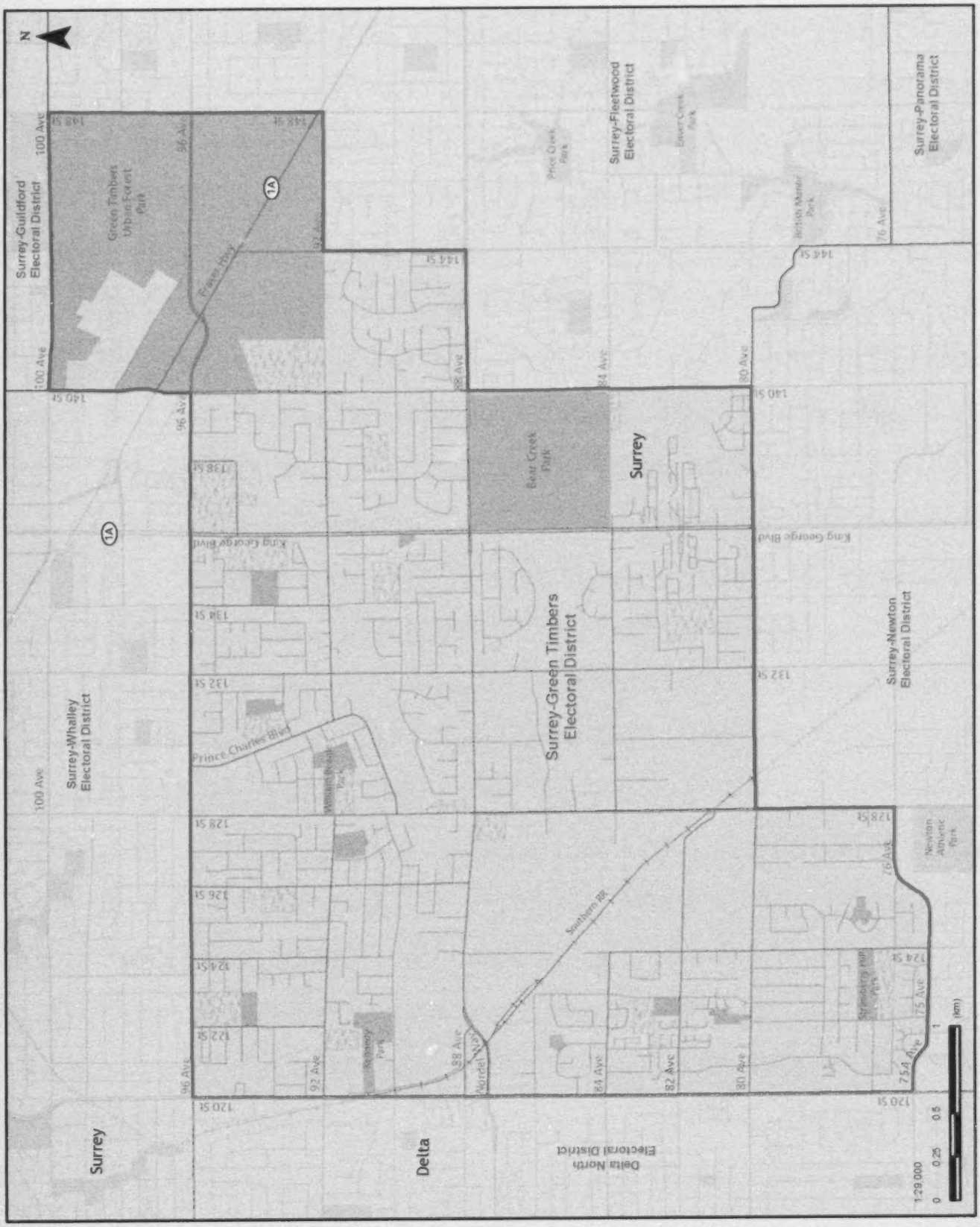
Surrey-Cloverdale

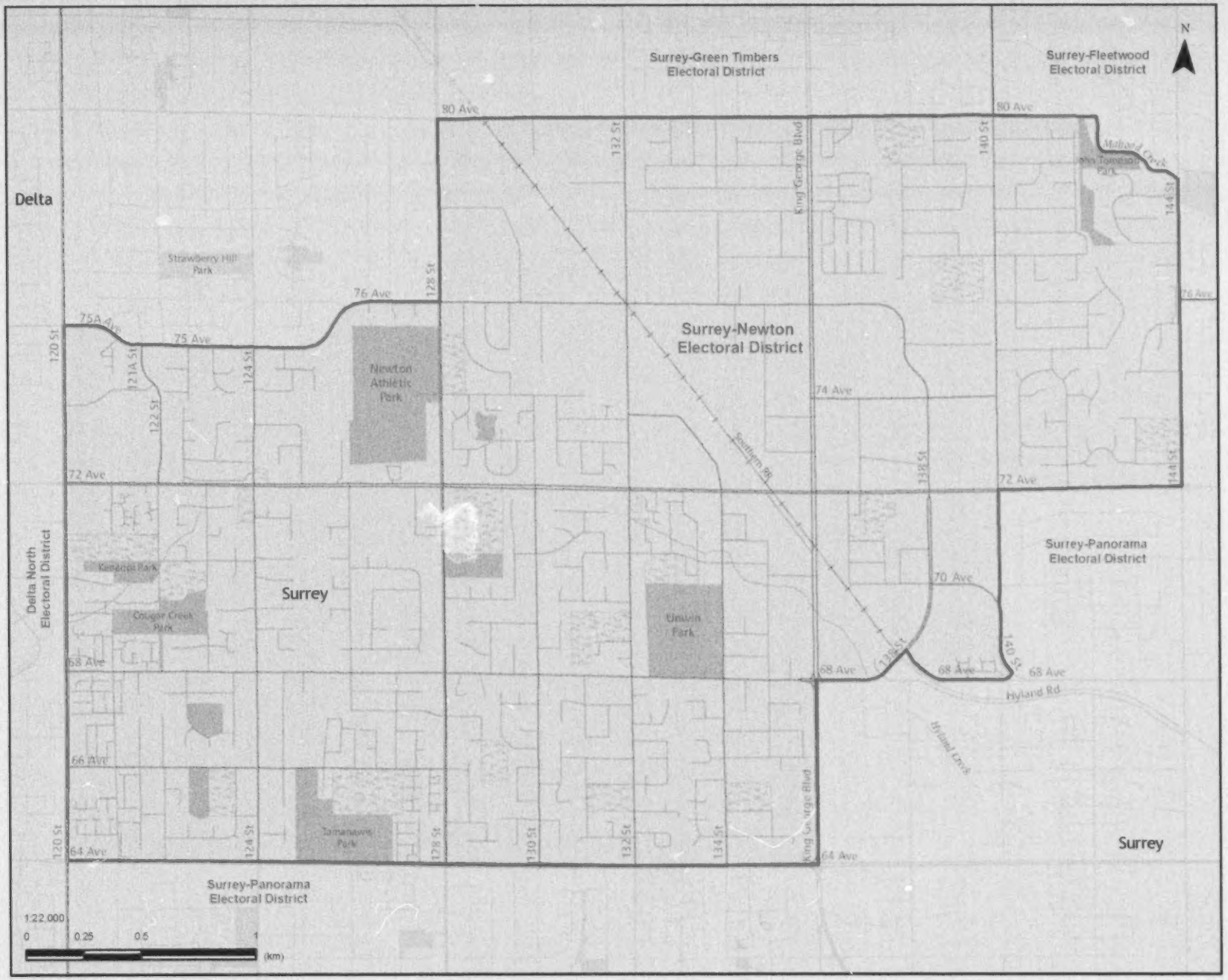


Surrey-Fleetwood

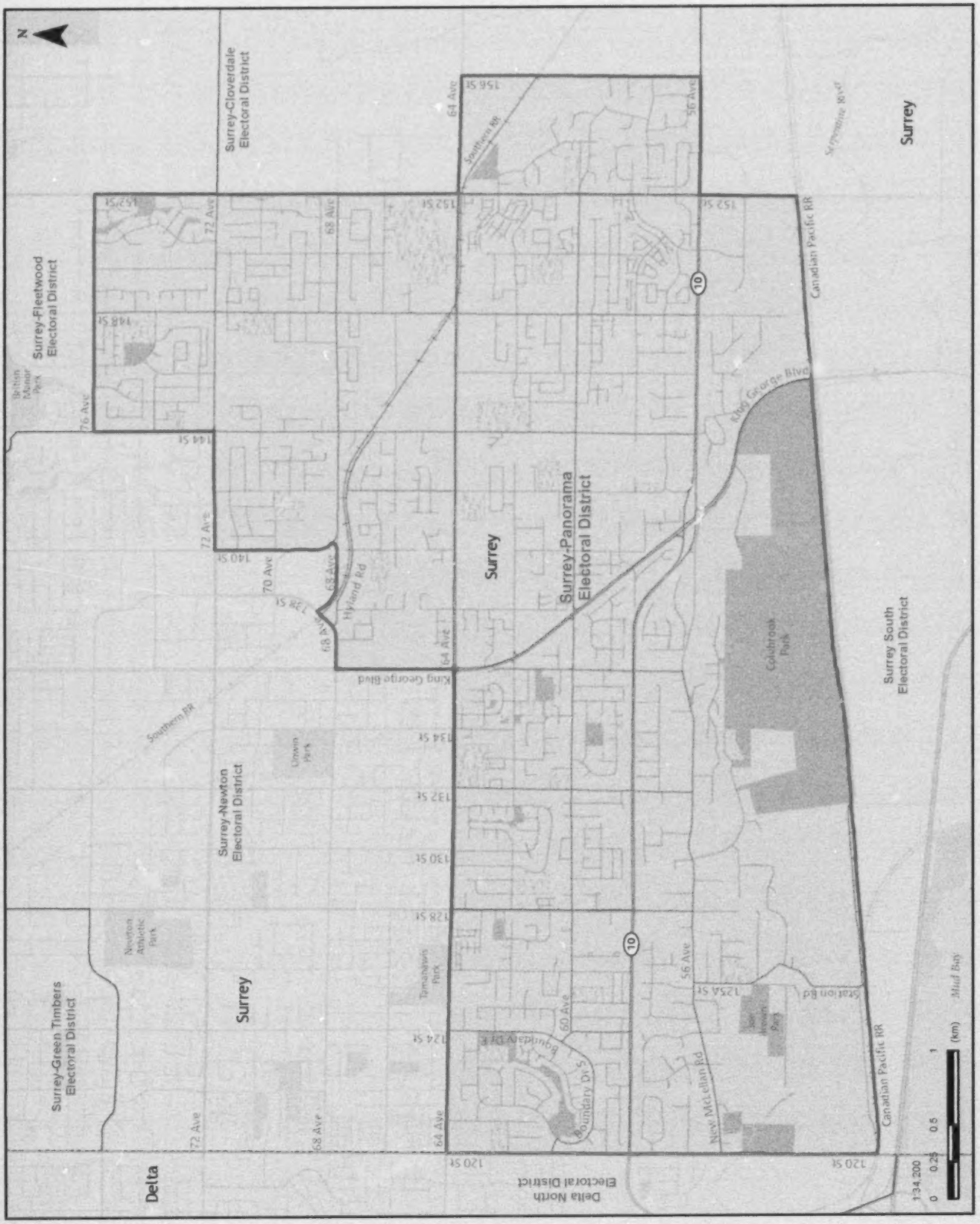


Surrey-Green Timbers

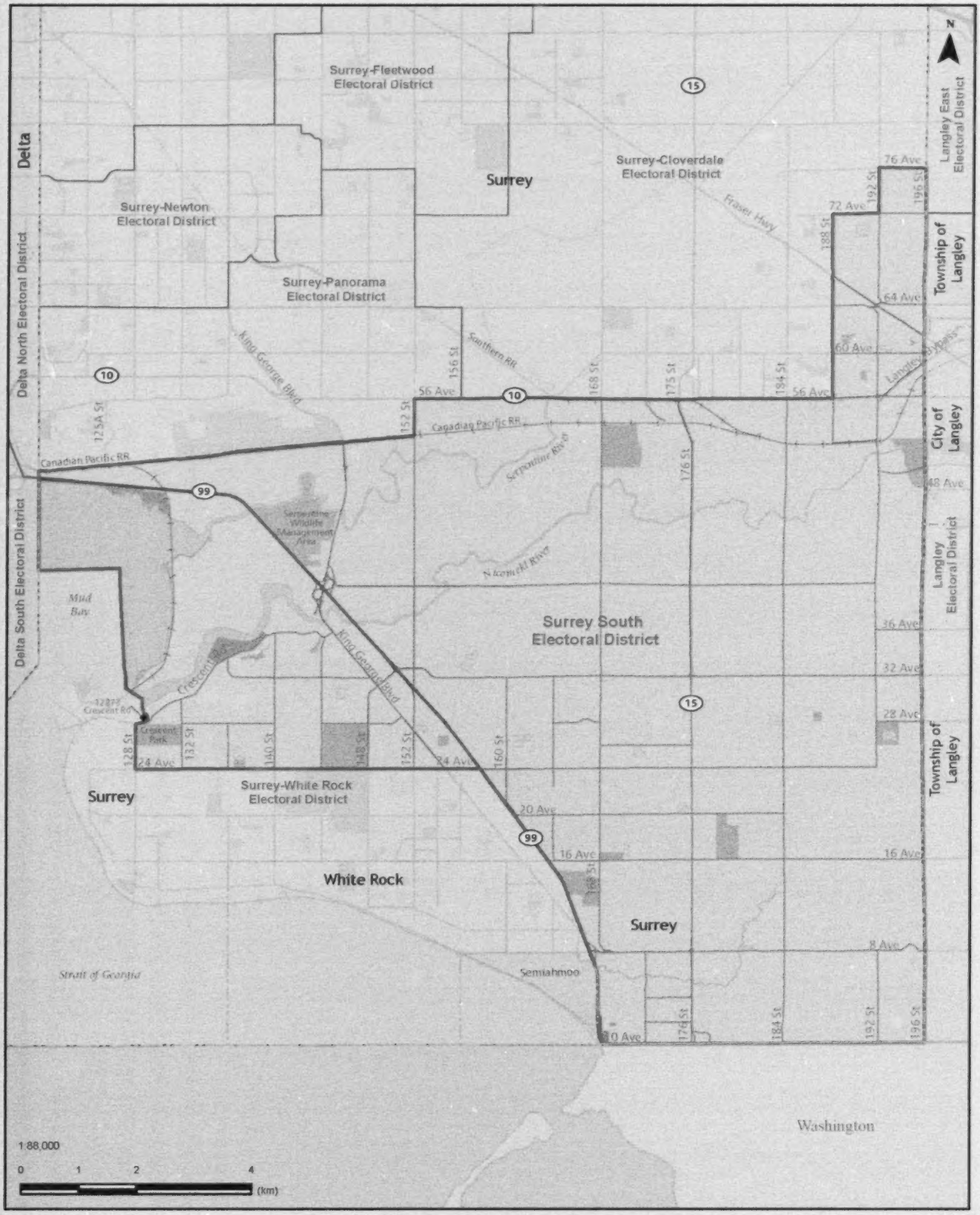



Surrey-Green Timbers
Electoral District
Surrey-Fleetwood
Electoral District
N
80 Ave
132 St
King George Blvd
140 St
Mahood Creek
Jim Jamieson Park
144 St
Delta
Strawberry Hill Park
128 St
76 Ave
75A Ave
75 Ave
120 St
121A St
122 St
124 St
Newton Athletic Park
Surrey-Newton
Electoral District
74 Ave
Southern Rd
138 St
72 Ave
Surrey-Panorama
Electoral District
Delta North
Electoral District
Kensington Park
Surrey
Cougar Creek Park
Unwin Park
70 Ave
68 Ave
66 Ave
64 Ave
Hyland Rd
Hyland Creek
Tamanawis Park
Surrey
Surrey-Panorama
Electoral District
1:22,000
0
0.25
0.5
1
(km)

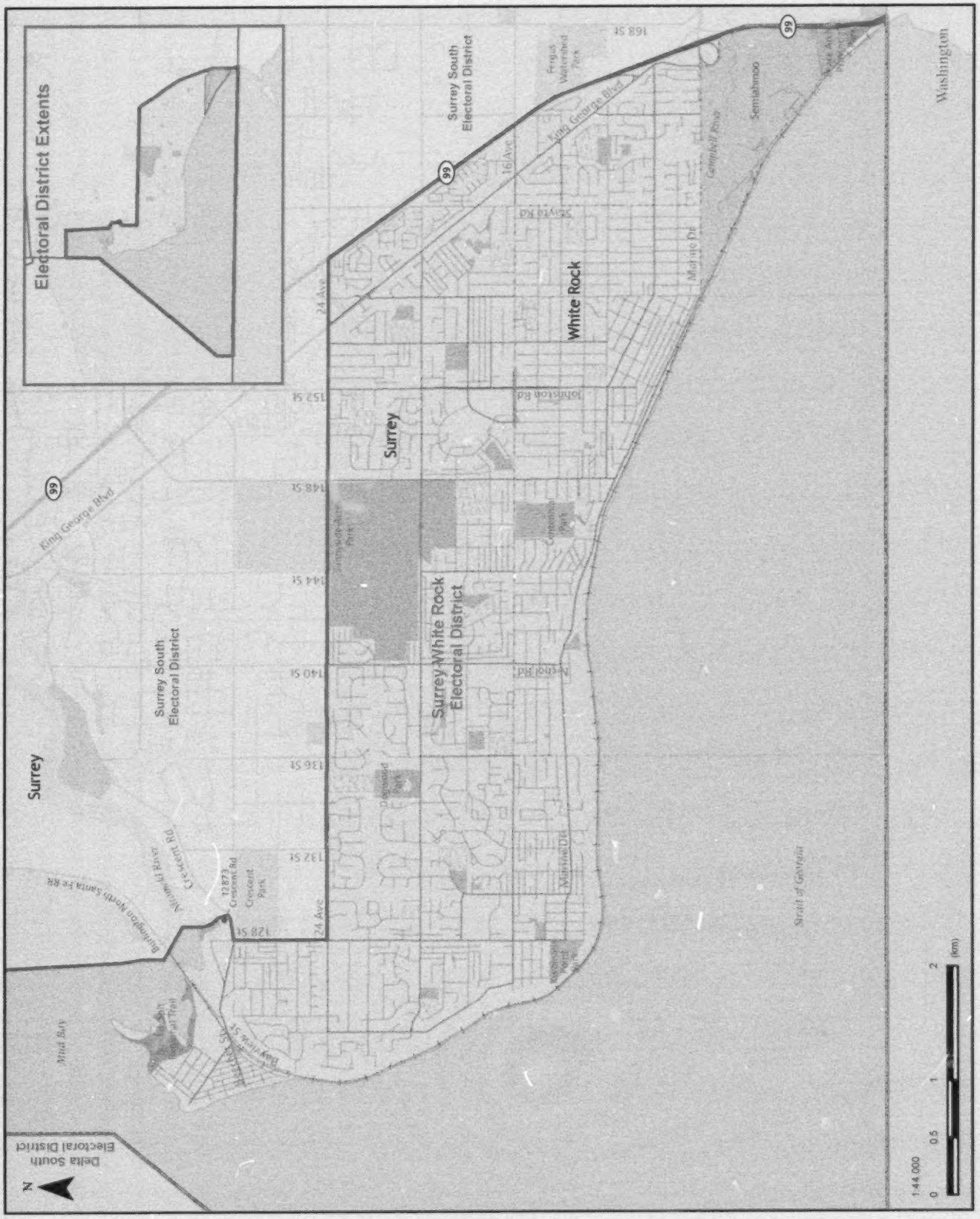
Surrey-Panorama



Surrey South



Surrey-White Rock



Fraser Valley

As in the Greater Vancouver area, the Fraser Valley has seen high rates of growth. Fewer of the Fraser Valley electoral districts however are significantly over the provincial average. Because the permitted two additional electoral districts have been added in Richmond and Surrey, the electoral districts that exceed the +/-25% range in the Langley area need to be adjusted by extending the boundaries of the Fraser Valley electoral districts farther east.

Many of the communities in the Fraser Valley have populations either too large (e.g. Maple Ridge - 80,434) or too small (e.g. Mission - 37,539) to have electoral districts aligned with municipal boundaries. Therefore, to balance the populations and to respect inter-governmental and community ties our proposed electoral districts in this area continue to cross municipal boundaries.

We propose no changes to: Maple Ridge-Mission and Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows.

Langley

The Langley area electoral districts typically have been self-contained electoral districts that have not crossed into other municipalities. However, this area has seen significant growth since 2008 and now its population is too high for two self-contained districts but does not yet warrant a third. All of the feedback we received regarding our preliminary proposals for Langley opposed our use of Highway 1 as a boundary and requested electoral districts more similar to the current configuration. Submitters explained that Langley does not share a community of interest with Abbotsford and these communities should not be combined in the same electoral districts. However, many told us that Aldergrove could be placed in an electoral district with western Abbotsford as they share a community of interest. In response to this input we propose electoral districts that more closely follow the current configuration.

Our proposed Langley electoral district largely follows the current boundaries, but is more compact. We propose moving the eastern boundary two blocks west to 216 Street to accommodate the growing population of the City of Langley.

Our proposed Langley East electoral district contains the rest of the Township of Langley that is west of 248 Street south of Highway 1, and west of 264 Street north of Highway 1.

Abbotsford

Abbotsford is another rapidly growing area of the Fraser Valley. Unlike Langley, the Abbotsford area electoral districts often have crossed municipal boundaries into Mission. Input to the commission suggested that many people in this area, especially in Mission, view dual-municipality districts in this area as an effective way to provide a high quality of representation for like communities. However, in response to our preliminary proposals, we heard that Abbotsford does not share a strong community of interest with Chilliwack or western Langley. Therefore, we propose Abbotsford districts that are largely within Abbotsford municipal boundaries.

Our proposed Abbotsford South largely follows the current electoral district boundaries, but includes the community of Aldergrove and the Township of Langley east of 248 Street. East of Sumas Way, the boundary now follows Highway 1 to the Abbotsford/Chilliwack border.

Our proposed Abbotsford West electoral district is similar to the current Abbotsford West, but extends further west to 264 Street and east to Sumas Way. The southern boundary follows South Fraser Way and Old Yale Road.

The proposed Abbotsford-Mission electoral district contains the remainder of the City of Abbotsford north of Highway 1, the eastern part of Mission, the

communities east of Mission to Harrison River and the Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area F. North of the Fraser River we propose only one very small change to the current Abbotsford-Mission electoral district boundaries at Stave Lake.

Chilliwack

With the removal of Hope and the Fraser Canyon from an electoral district that includes Chilliwack, the population of the eastern Fraser Valley must be rebalanced (for more on Hope and the Fraser Canyon see page 37). We propose two electoral districts centred around Chilliwack: Chilliwack and Chilliwack-Kent.

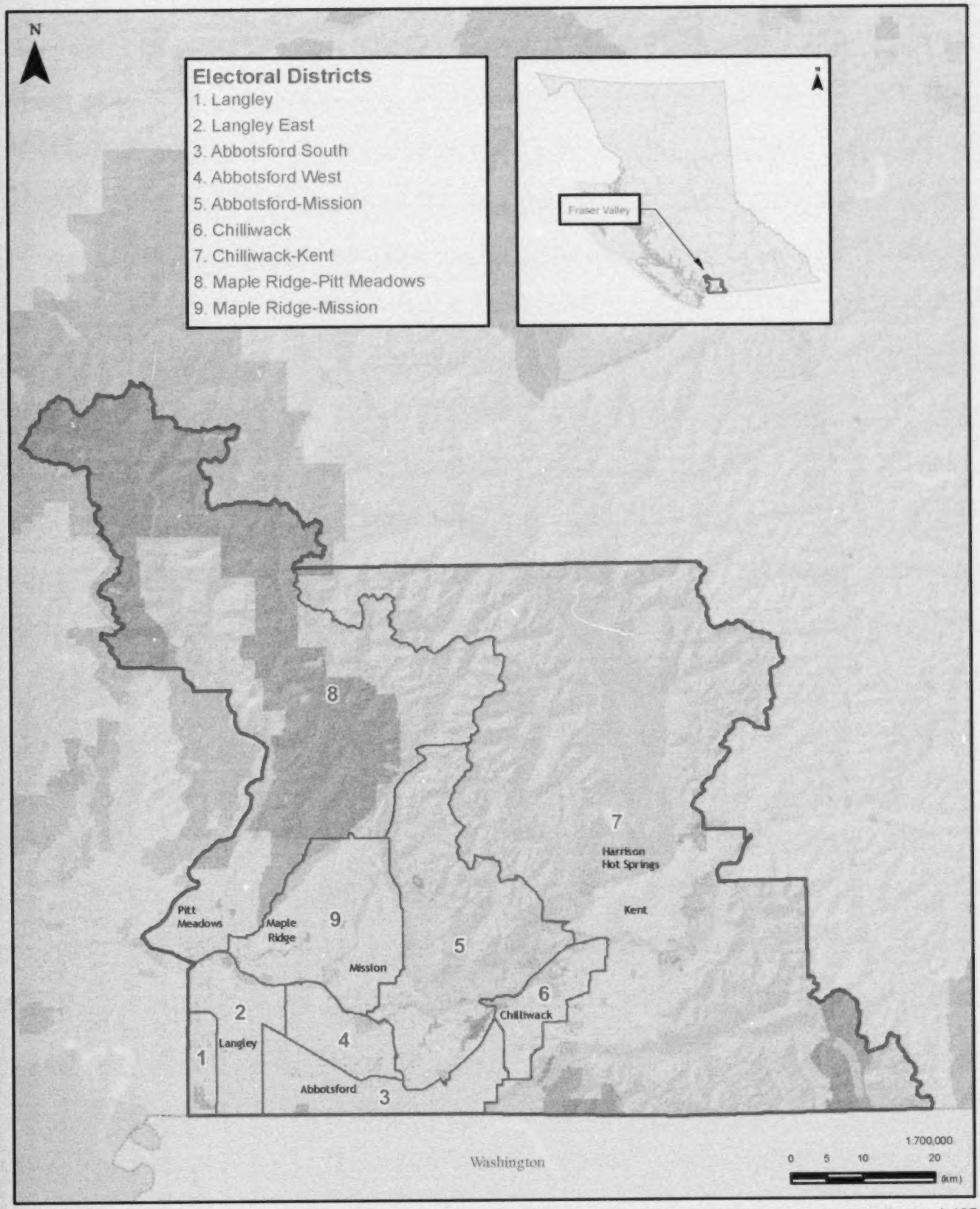
Our proposed Chilliwack electoral district largely follows the current boundaries, but excludes neighbourhoods east of Vedder Road south of Highway 1 to Chilliwack-Kent.

Our proposed Chilliwack-Kent is similar to the current Chilliwack-Hope, but does not include Hope and the Fraser Canyon. The western boundary now follows the Fraser Valley Electoral Area B boundary. The northern boundary with West Vancouver-Sea to Sky has also been altered (for more on this change see page 61).

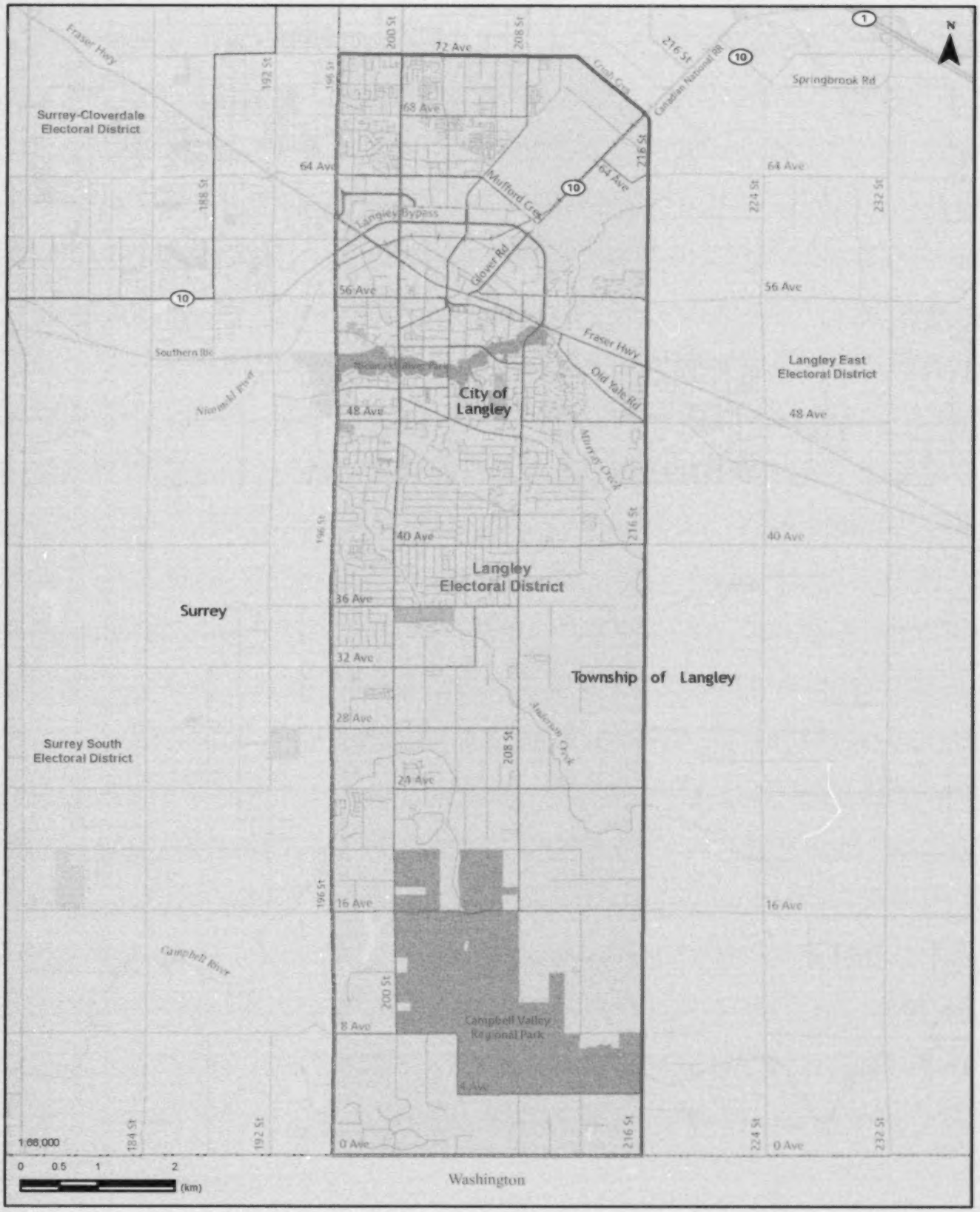
Table 14: Proposed electoral districts population and area – Fraser Valley

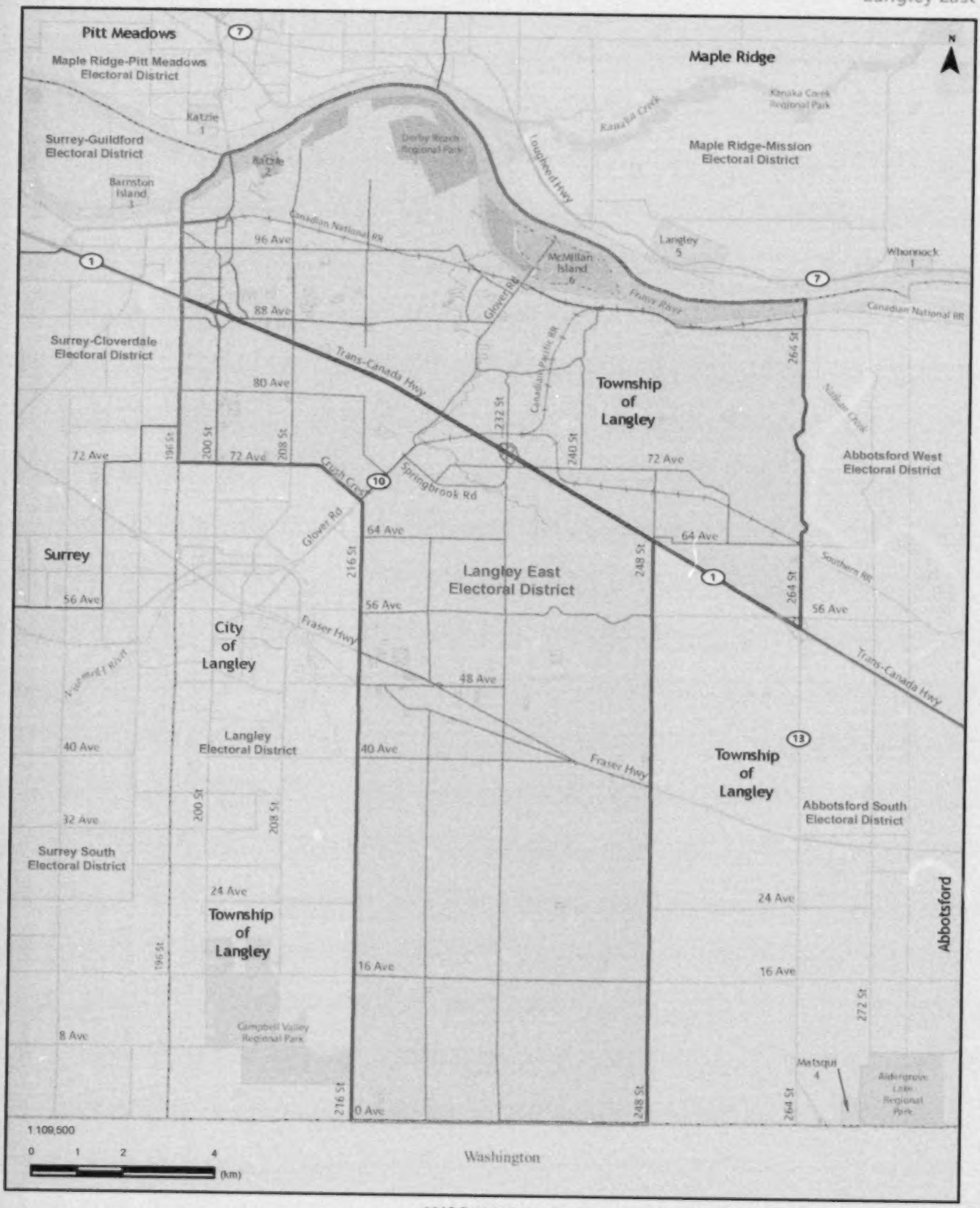
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Langley	59,812	12.6	59
Langley East	61,576	15.9	186
Abbotsford South	61,997	16.7	243
Abbotsford West	60,339	13.6	135
Abbotsford-Mission	60,962	14.8	660
Chilliwack	49,089	-7.6	135
Chilliwack-Kent	51,021	-3.9	3,168
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	9.7	1,980
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	10.5	393

Fraser Valley

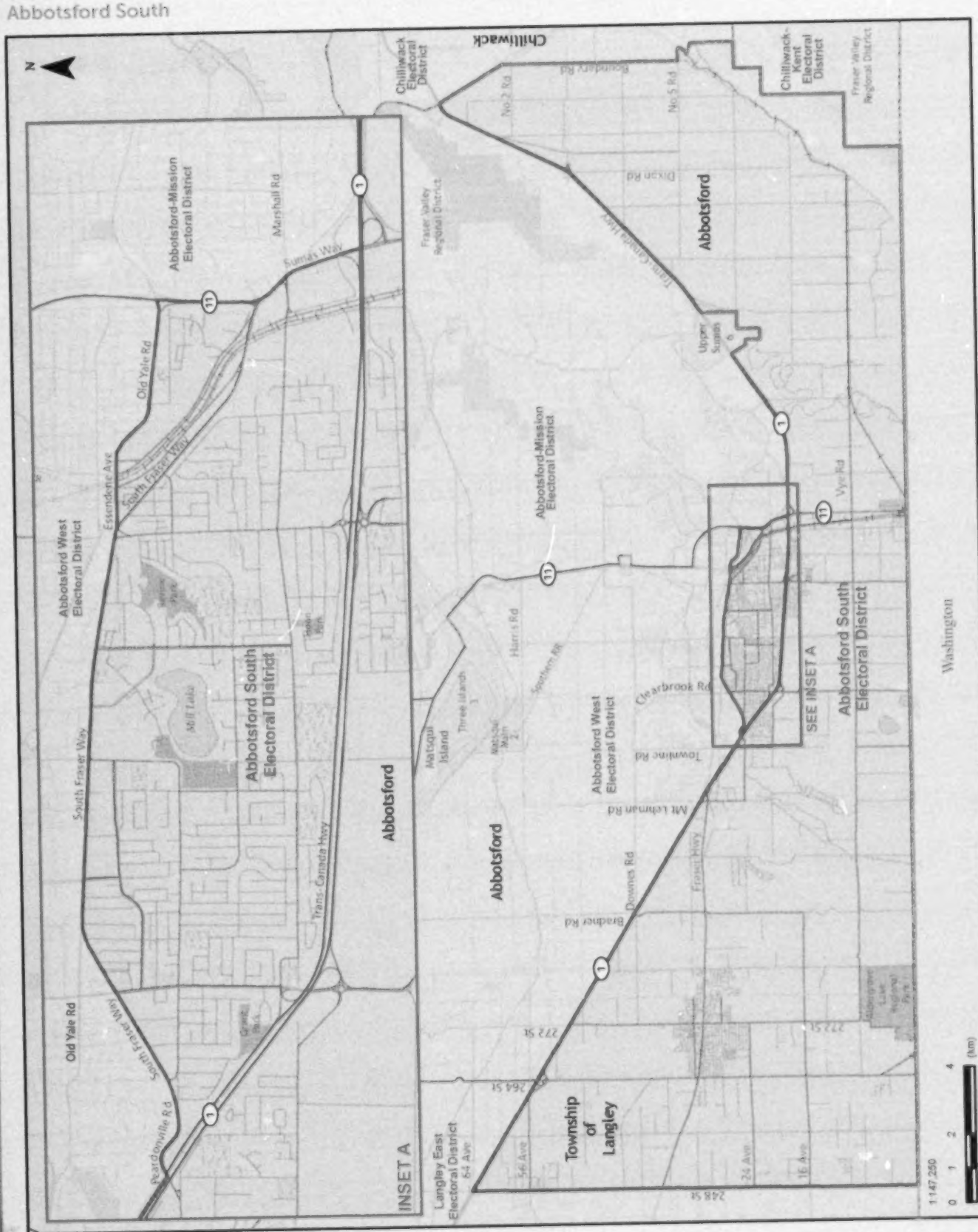


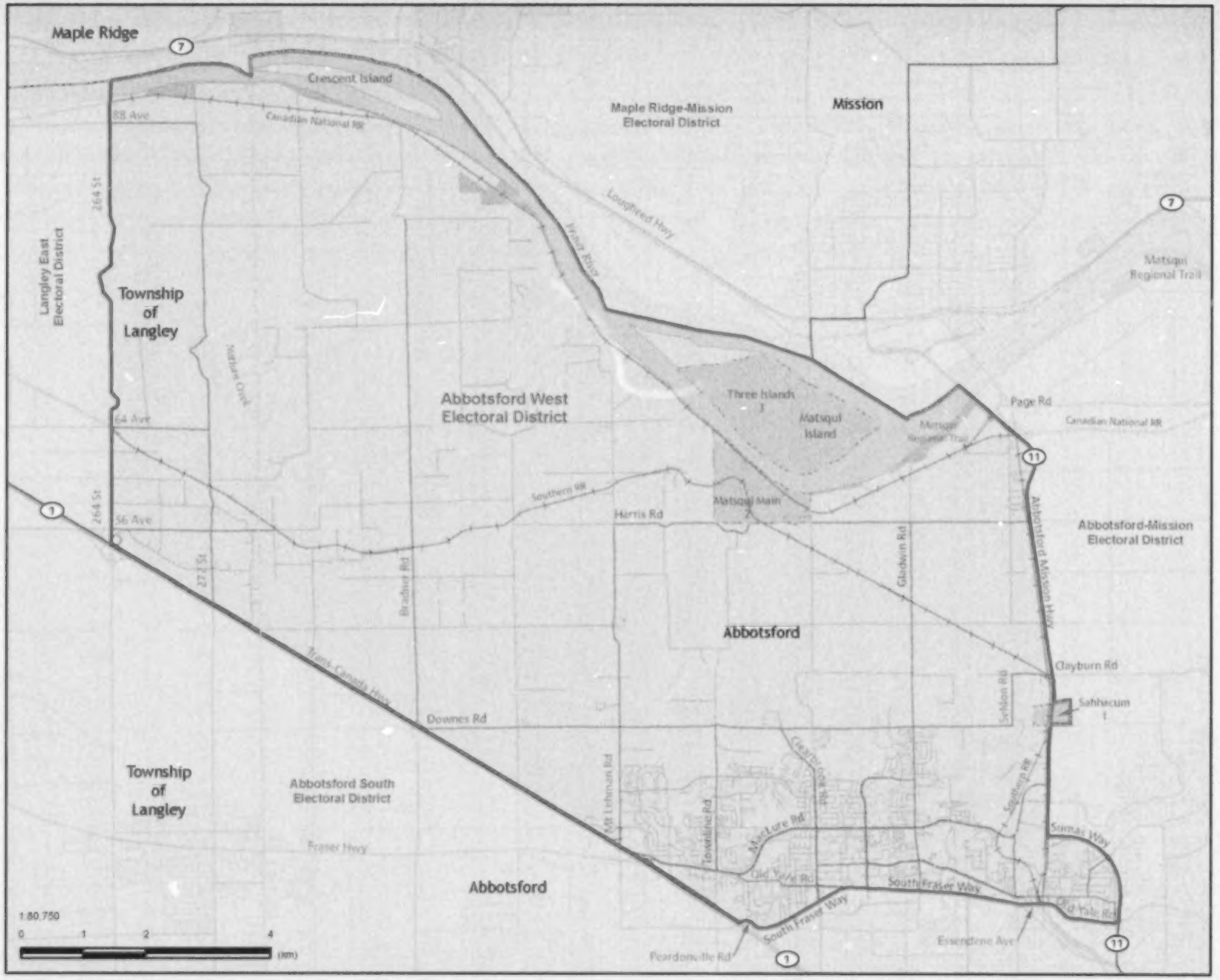
Langley


Fraser Hwy
200 St
72 Ave
208 St
216 St
Canadian National RR
Springbrook Rd
192 St
196 St
68 Ave
Surrey-Cloverdale
Electoral District
64 Ave
Mufford Creek
64 Ave
224 St
232 St
188 St
Langley Bypass
Glover Rd
56 Ave
56 Ave
Fraser Hwy
Southern Rlc
Nicomekl River Park
Old Yale Rd
Langley East
Electoral District
Nicomekl River
City of
Langley
48 Ave
48 Ave
Murrey Creek
40 Ave
40 Ave
Langley
Electoral District
36 Ave
Surrey
32 Ave
Township of Langley
28 Ave
Anderson Creek
Surrey South
Electoral District
208 St
24 Ave
16 Ave
16 Ave
Campbell River
200 St
8 Ave
Campbell Valley
Regional Park
4 Ave
1:68,000
184 St
192 St
0 Ave
216 St
224 St
0 Ave
232 St
0 0.5 1 2
(km)
Washington

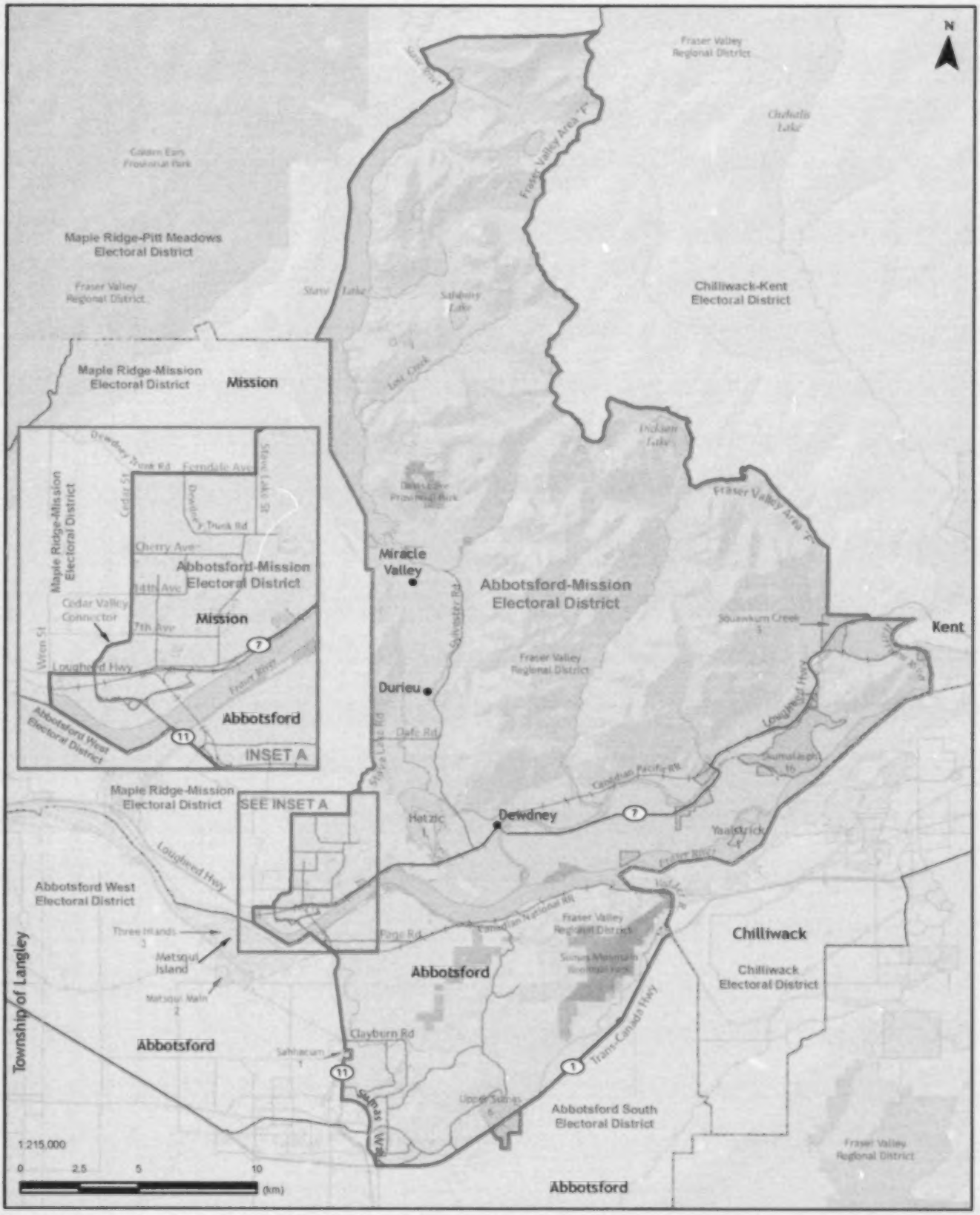

Pitt Meadows
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Electoral District
Maple Ridge
Maple Ridge-Mission Electoral District
Surrey-Guildford Electoral District
Surrey-Cloverdale Electoral District
Surrey
Surrey South Electoral District
Township of Langley
City of Langley
Langley Electoral District
Langley East Electoral District
Abbotsford West Electoral District
Abbotsford South Electoral District
Abbotsford
Katzie 1
Katzie 2
Barnston Island 1
Langley 5
McMillan Island 6
Whonnock 1
Matsqui 4
Derby Reach Regional Park
Kanaka Creek Regional Park
Campbell Valley Regional Park
Aldergrove Lake Regional Park
Canadian National RR
Canadian Pacific RR
Southern RR
Trans-Canada Hwy
Fraser Hwy
Glover Rd
Langley Bypass
Springbrook Rd
Fraser River
Nathan Creek
Coghlan Creek
Salmon River
Loughheed Hwy
96 Ave
88 Ave
80 Ave
72 Ave
64 Ave
56 Ave
48 Ave
40 Ave
32 Ave
24 Ave
16 Ave
8 Ave
0 Ave
196 St
200 St
208 St
216 St
232 St
240 St
248 St
264 St
272 St
1:109,500
0 1 2 4
(km)
Washington

Abbotsford South

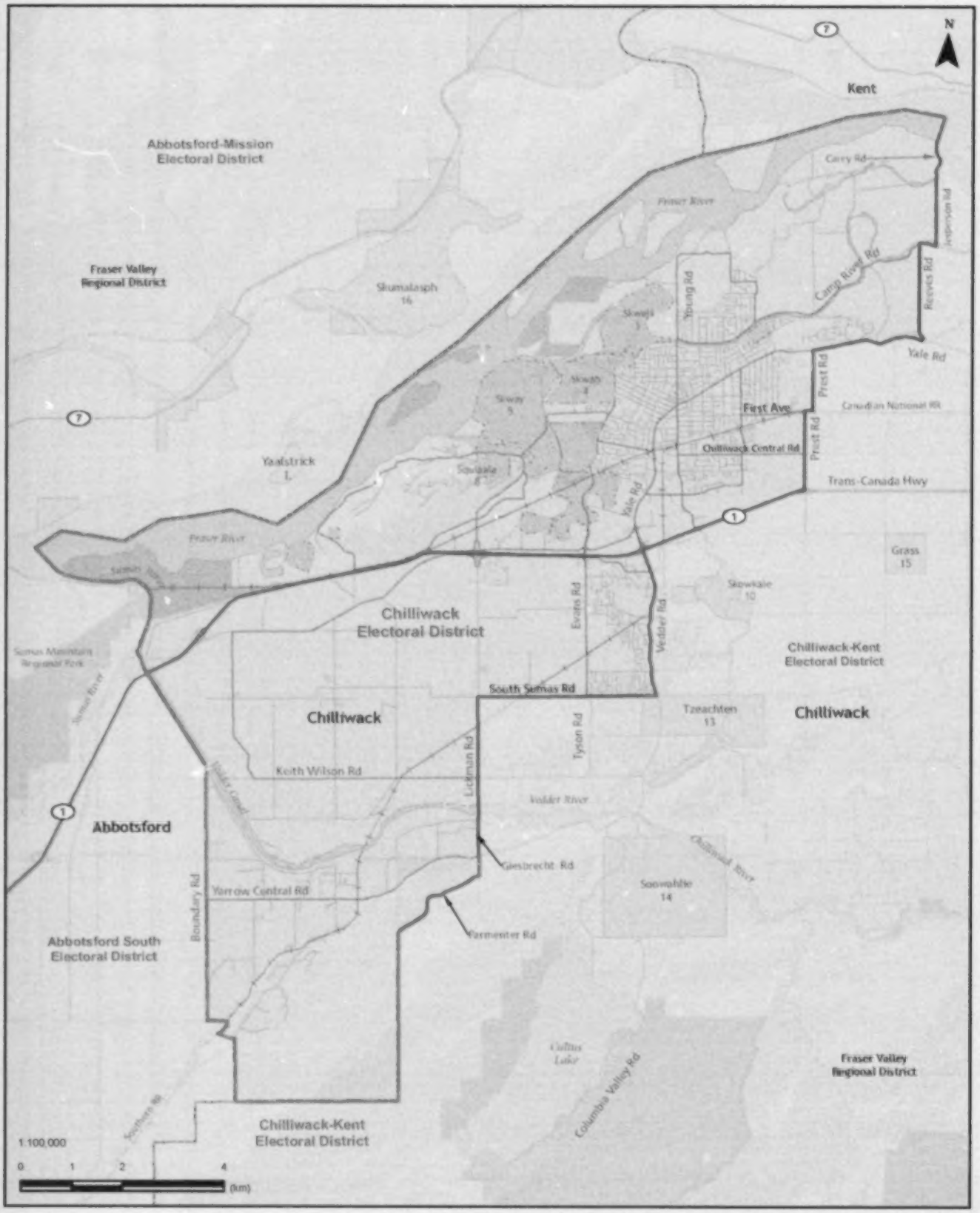



Maple Ridge
Crescent Island
88 Ave
Canadian National RR
Maple Ridge-Mission Electoral District
Mission
Langley East Electoral District
264 St
Township of Langley
Nathan Creek
Abbotsford West Electoral District
Three Islands 3
Matsqui Island
Matsqui Regional Trail
Page Rd
Canadian National RR
64 Ave
Southern RR
Harris Rd
Matsqui Main
Abbotsford-Mission Electoral District
56 Ave
272 St
Bradner Rd
Gladwin Rd
Abbotsford
Trans Canada Hwy
Clayburn Rd
Schlson Rd
Sahhecum 1
Downes Rd
Township of Langley
Abbotsford South Electoral District
Mt Lehman Rd
Townline Rd
MacLure Rd
Clearbrook Rd
Sumas Way
Fraser Hwy
Old Yale Rd
South Fraser Way
Abbotsford
1:80,750
0 1 2 4 (km)
Peardonville Rd
Essendene Ave

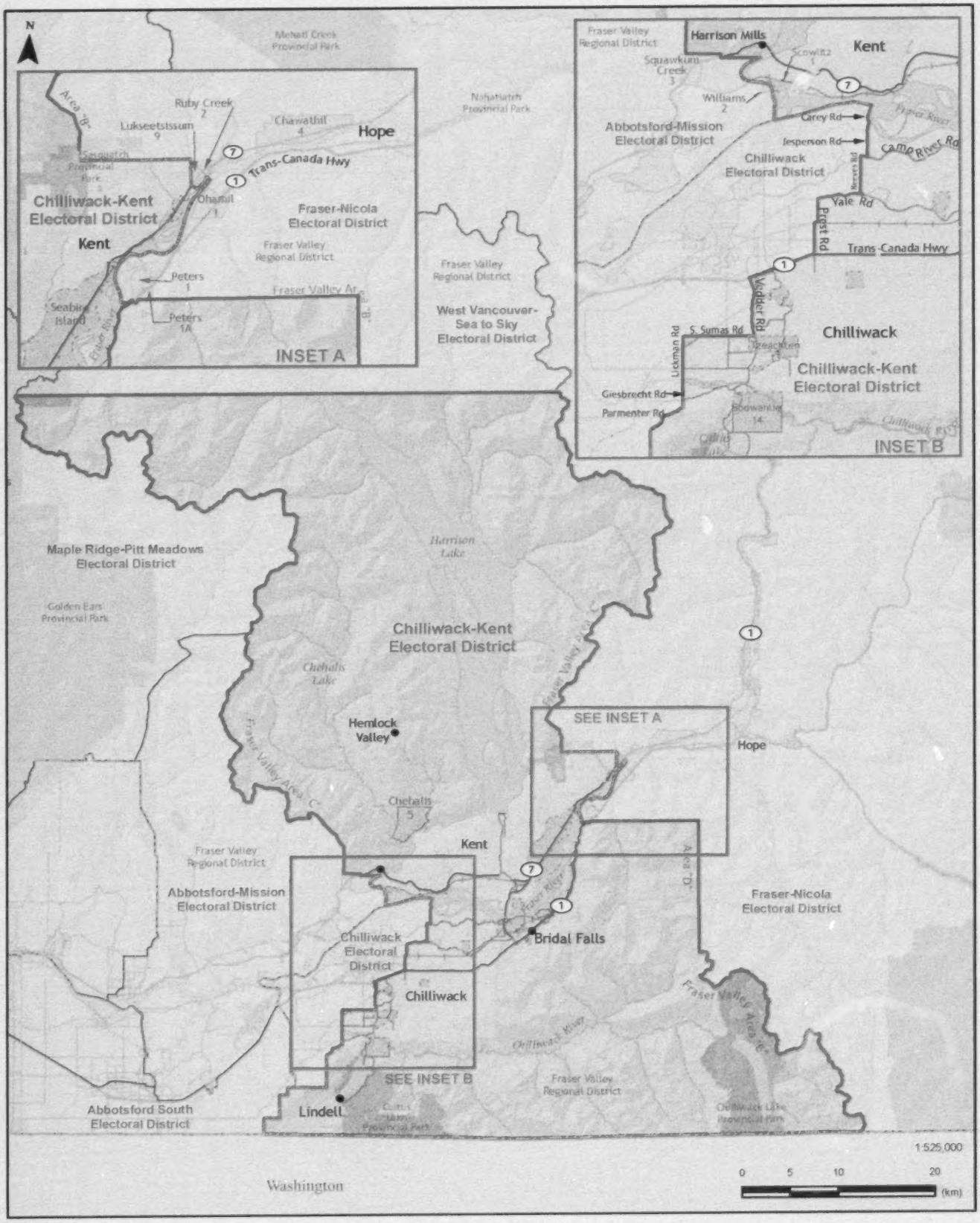
Abbotsford-Mission



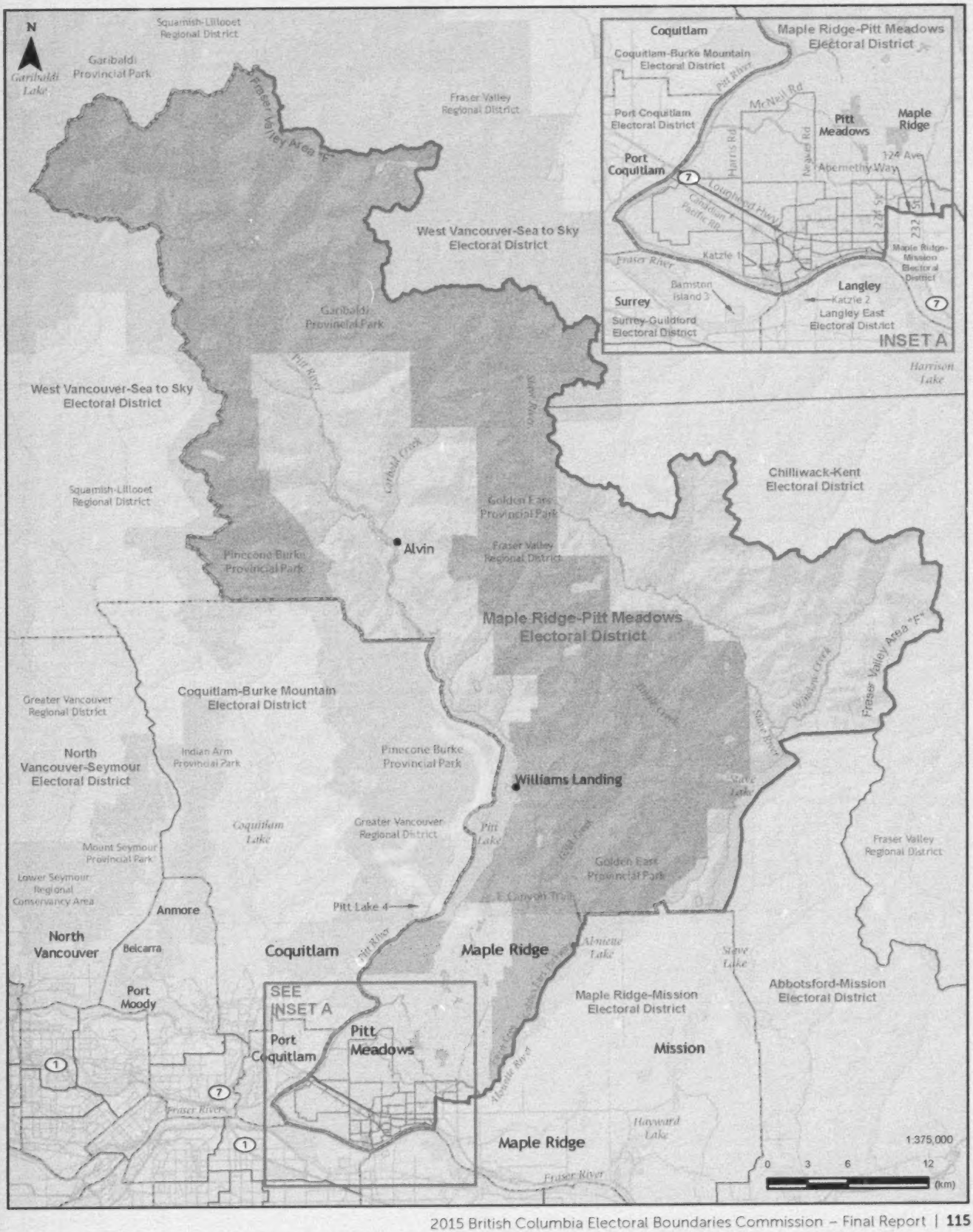
Chilliwack


N
Kent
Abbotsford-Mission
Electoral District
Fraser Valley
Regional District
Carey Rd
Fraser River
Camp River Rd
Reeves Rd
Anderson Rd
Young Rd
Yale Rd
Prest Rd
First Ave
Canadian National RR
Chilliwack Central Rd
Trans-Canada Hwy
Yeaistrick
1
Skwah
4
Skwah
3
Skwah
5
Skwah
2
Skowkale
6
Grass
15
Skowkale
10
Chilliwack
Electoral District
Evans Rd
Vedder Rd
Chilliwack-Kent
Electoral District
South Sumas Rd
Chilliwack
Tzeachten
13
Chilliwack
Tyson Rd
Lickman Rd
Keith Wilson Rd
Vedder River
Abbotsford
Vedder Canal
Giesbrecht Rd
Chilliwack River
Soowahlie
14
Yarrow Central Rd
Boundary Rd
Abbotsford South
Electoral District
Yarmenter Rd
Cultus
Lake
Columbia Valley Rd
Fraser Valley
Regional District
Chilliwack-Kent
Electoral District
Southern Rr
1:100,000
0
1
2
4
(km)

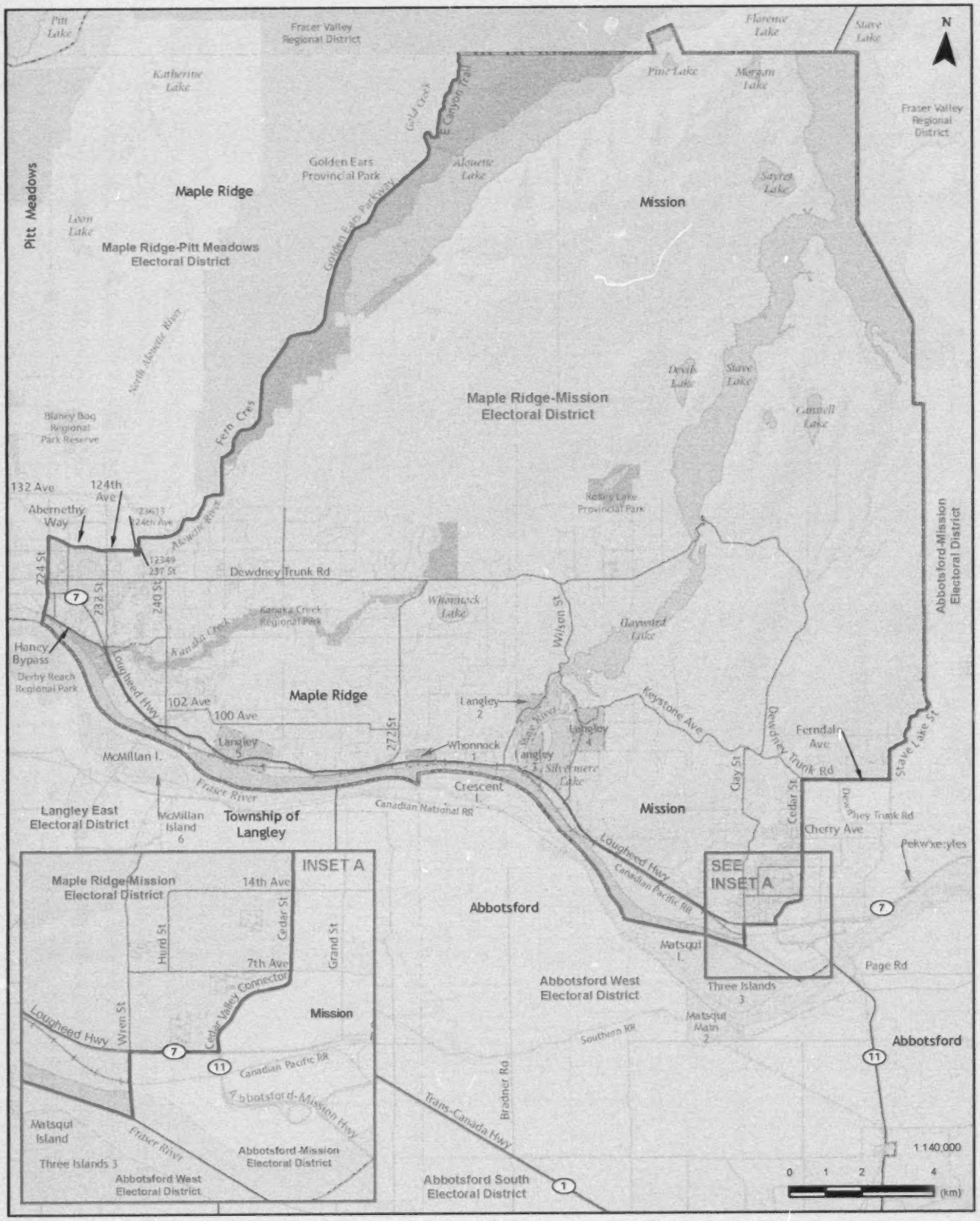
Chilliwack-Kent



Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows



Maple Ridge-Mission



Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast are a mix of urban, suburban, rural and remote communities. With a few notable exceptions they are not densely populated and share many of the accessibility challenges of other remote parts of British Columbia. Consistent with the message received elsewhere in the province, much of the input from residents of this area recommended little to no change. We were reminded of the transportation challenges faced by residents on the Sunshine Coast, the islands east and north of Vancouver Island, and the remote communities on the north and western coasts of Vancouver Island. The input also emphasized the Malahat as a natural divide between districts in the south and the rest of Vancouver Island.

Most of the current electoral districts in this area are at or near the provincial average. The exceptions are the rapidly growing Comox Valley, which is currently more than 22% above the provincial average, and neighbouring Alberni-Pacific Rim at 18% below the provincial average. This disparity is too great and creates the necessity to rebalance the population in this area in order to provide more effective representation for both of these communities. We also propose changes in the Nanaimo and Greater Victoria areas to respond to public input, rebalance populations and provide more effective representation.

We propose no changes to: Powell River-Sunshine Coast, North Island, Cowichan Valley, Saanich North and the Islands, Saanich South, and Victoria-Swan Lake.

Comox Valley and mid-Vancouver Island

In recent years, the Comox Valley electoral district has shared the same boundaries as the Comox Valley Regional District. However, the population of Comox Valley has now outgrown a single electoral district. At 22% over the provincial average Comox Valley is just within the +/- 25% population range but is projected to exceed it by 2017. Therefore, we determined that we must address this issue now and propose boundaries that provide more effective representation by reducing the population within this district.

The current Alberni-Pacific Rim electoral district is by far the smallest electoral district on Vancouver Island by population. It is 18% under the provincial average and is projected to grow more slowly than the provincial average in the near future.

To provide more effective representation for both communities the boundaries between the two districts are altered to assign some of the population of Comox Valley to the other mid-island electoral district. While the majority of the public input from the Comox Valley requested we not make any changes to the current electoral district, it was also emphasised that if we were to make changes, the communities of Courtenay and Comox would be best served in the same electoral district. Our Preliminary Report proposal to include Cumberland in Mid Island-Pacific Rim was not well received by a number of those who provided public input. However, we continue to believe that the inclusion of Cumberland in Mid Island-Pacific Rim will provide more effective representation for both communities. With its sizeable population, Cumberland will act as an anchor community for the eastern portion of the district, similar to role that Port Alberni plays for the central portion, and Tofino and Ucluelet play in the west.

We propose an electoral district that includes the communities of Courtenay and Comox, as well as the rest of the Comox Valley Regional District north-west of the Comox Valley Regional District Electoral Area A and Area C boundary. We propose this electoral district be named Courtenay-Comox.

The remainder of the Comox Valley Regional District, from Royston and Cumberland south, and including Hornby and Denman Islands, will be included in a new mid-Island electoral district that we propose be named Mid Island-Pacific Rim.

Nanaimo area

Nanaimo and the surrounding areas are experiencing moderate growth. The area includes Parksville, Qualicum, Nanaimo, and the Cowichan Valley. These areas share ties and, with the exception of the Nanaimo electoral district, combine various communities in one electoral district. The changes we propose address the growing population in this area and respond to requests to unite affiliated communities.

We propose a small change to the Parksville-Qualicum electoral district boundaries. We propose extending the northern boundary north-west to the Nanaimo Regional District Electoral Area G boundary north of Highway 19 in order to include the area of Dashwood on the north-west side of the Little Qualicum River in the Parksville-Qualicum electoral district.

We propose to include Vancouver Island University, the College Heights neighbourhood, and the City of Nanaimo west of Highway 19 in the Nanaimo electoral district by largely following the Nanaimo municipal boundary in this area. This change will place Vancouver Island University in the same electoral district as where the majority of its staff and students reside. To offset the increase in population to the Nanaimo electoral district, we propose moving the southern boundary between Nanaimo and Nanaimo-North Cowichan north from Fifth Street to Fourth Street.

Capital Region

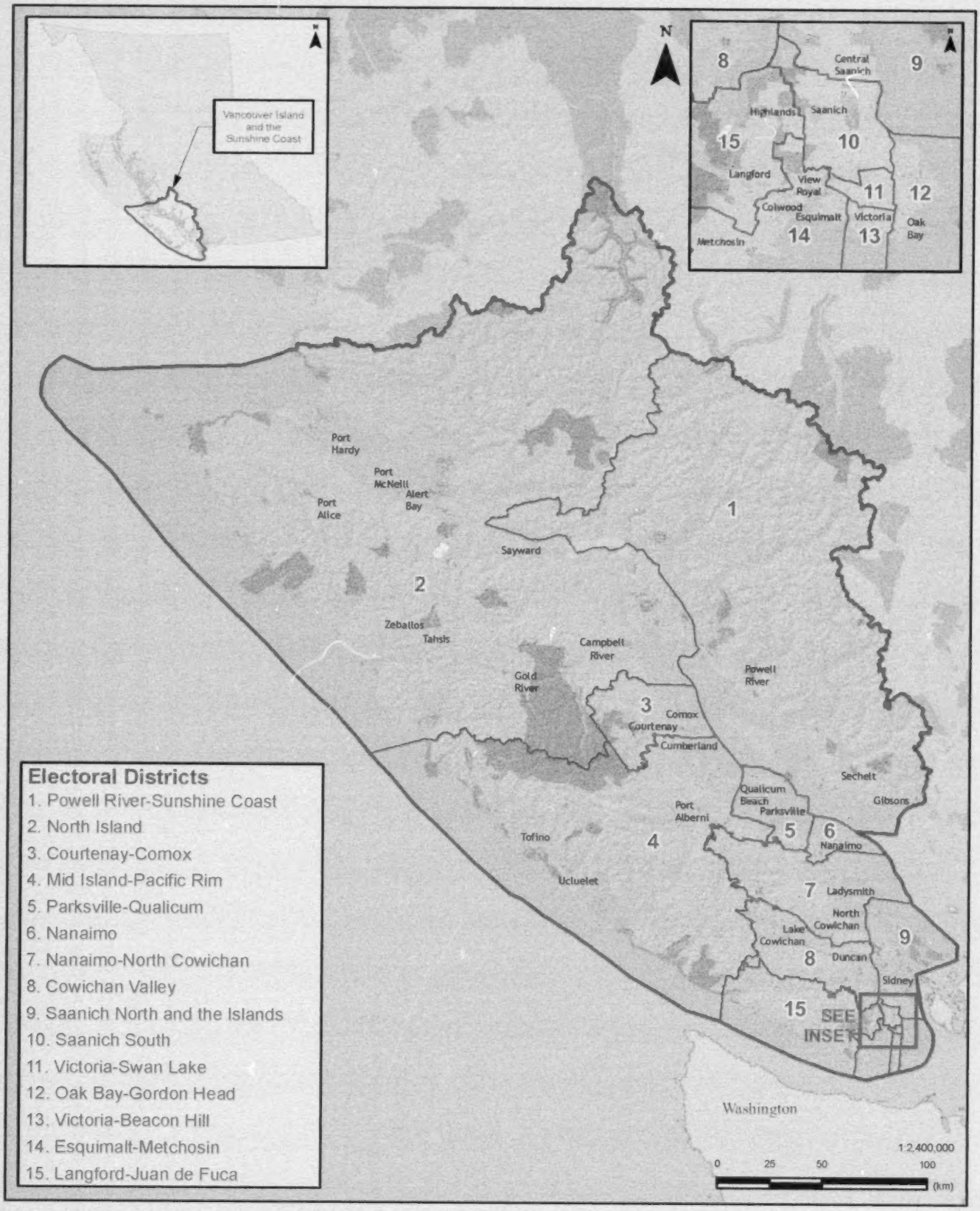
Vancouver Island south of the Malahat is made up of 13 municipalities and four unincorporated areas. The highest rates of growth in the Capital Region are in Langford and the West Shore in the suburbs of Greater Victoria. The populations of the existing electoral districts are relatively well balanced and we are not convinced of a need to propose more extensive changes to this area. We propose changes to the boundaries of the existing Victoria-Beacon Hill and Oak Bay-Gordon Head electoral districts to return the neighbourhood of Vic West to a Victoria electoral district and rebalance the population between these two districts. The western boundary of Victoria-Beacon Hill becomes the Victoria/Esquimalt boundary and the eastern boundary follows Richmond Avenue to Fairfield Road and along the east side of Ross Bay Cemetery to the ocean.

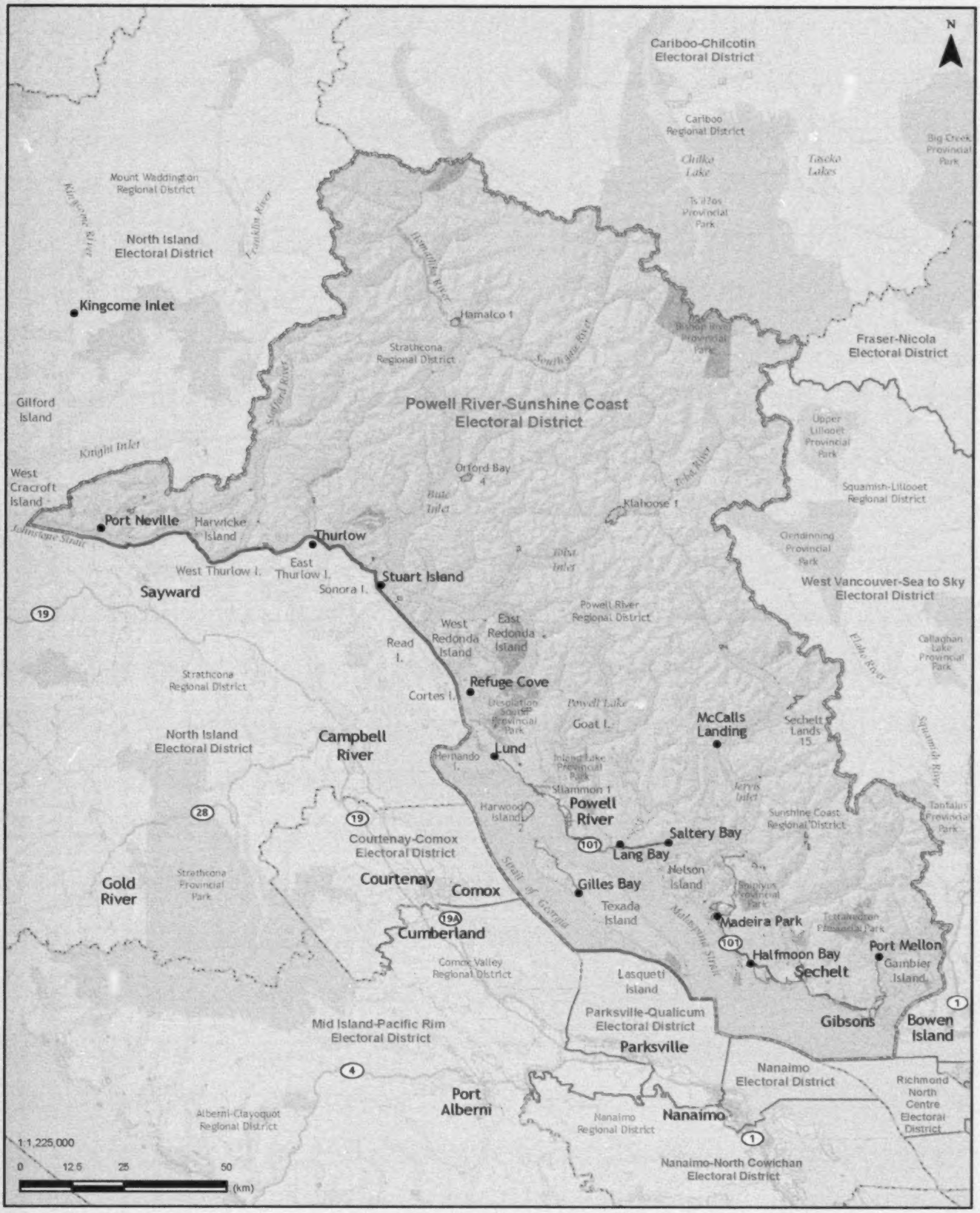
We also propose moving the District of Metchosin to an electoral district that includes Colwood, View Royal and Esquimalt and that this district be named Esquimalt-Metchosin. This change will balance the population across the area while providing room for continued growth in Langford. We propose the current Juan de Fuca electoral district be renamed Langford-Juan de Fuca.

Table 15: Proposed electoral districts population and area– Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area(sq km)
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-5.8	21,007
North Island	55,633	4.7	45,034
Courtenay-Comox	54,816	3.2	1,584
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	52,833	-0.5	14,099
Parksville-Qualicum	54,089	1.8	978
Nanaimo	57,008	7.3	458
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	52,414	-1.3	2,700
Cowichan Valley	59,232	11.5	1,685
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	6.3	1,519
Saanich South	51,661	-2.7	91
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-2.9	18
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	55,689	4.8	330
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,707	3.0	90
Esquimalt-Metchosin	51,450	-3.1	378
Langford-Juan de Fuca	51,782	-2.5	2,447

Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast




N
Cariboo-Chilcotin Electoral District
Cariboo Regional District
Chilko Lake
Tatlayoko Lake
Big Creek Provincial Park
Mount Waddington Regional District
Kingcome River
Franklin River
North Island Electoral District
Tsitzas Provincial Park
Homathko River
Kingcome Inlet
Hamalco I.
Bishop River Provincial Park
Fraser-Nicola Electoral District
Strathcona Regional District
Southgate River
Stafford River
Gilford Island
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Knight Inlet
Upper Lillooet Provincial Park
West Cracroft Island
Orford Bay
Bute Inlet
Toba River
Klahoose 1
Squamish-Lillooet Regional District
Port Neville
Harwicke Island
Johnstone Strait
Thurlow
Glendinning Provincial Park
West Thurlow I.
East Thurlow I.
Sonora I.
Stuart Island
Inlet
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky Electoral District
Sayward
19
Powell River Regional District
West Redonda Island
East Redonda Island
Read I.
Callaghan Lake Provincial Park
Strathcona Regional District
Refuge Cove
Cortes I.
Desolation Sound Provincial Park
Powell Lake
Goat I.
McCalls Landing
Sechelt Lands 15
North Island Electoral District
Campbell River
Hernando I.
Lund
Inland Lake Provincial Park
Stiammon 1
Powell River
Harwood Islands
Jervis Inlet
Sunshine Coast Regional District
Tantalus Provincial Park
28
19
Courtenay-Comox Electoral District
101
Saltery Bay
Lang Bay
Nelson Island
Strait of Georgia
Strathcona Provincial Park
Gold River
Courtenay
Comox
Gilles Bay
Texada Island
Malaspina Strait
Tetrahedron Provincial Park
Madeira Park
19A
Cumberland
101
Halfmoon Bay
Port Mellon
Sechelt
Gambier Island
Comox Valley Regional District
Lasqueti Island
1
Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District
Gibsons
Bowen Island
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Parksville
4
Nanaimo Electoral District
Richmond North Centre Electoral District
Port Alberni
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
Nanaimo Regional District
Nanaimo
1
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
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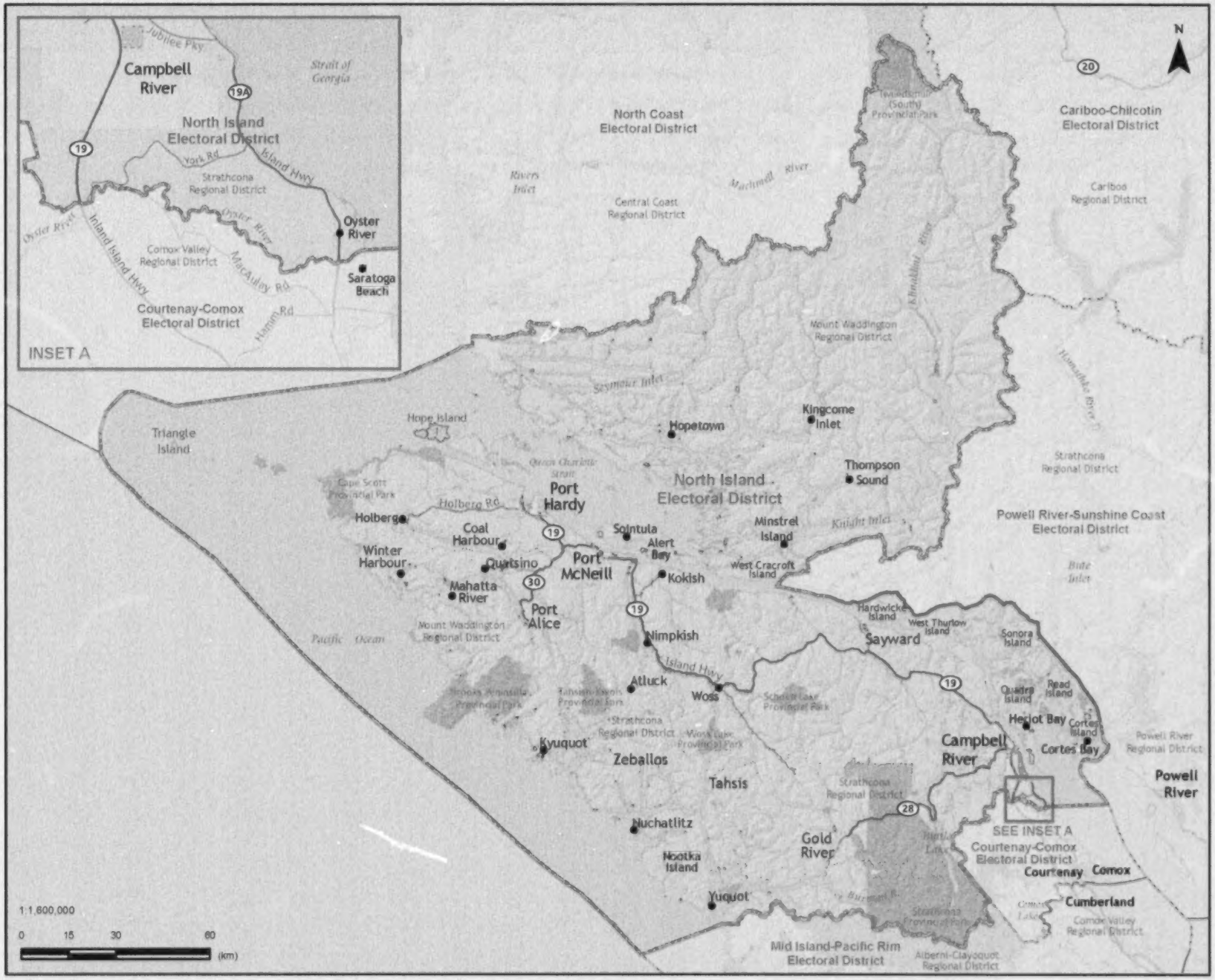
0
12.5
25
50
(km)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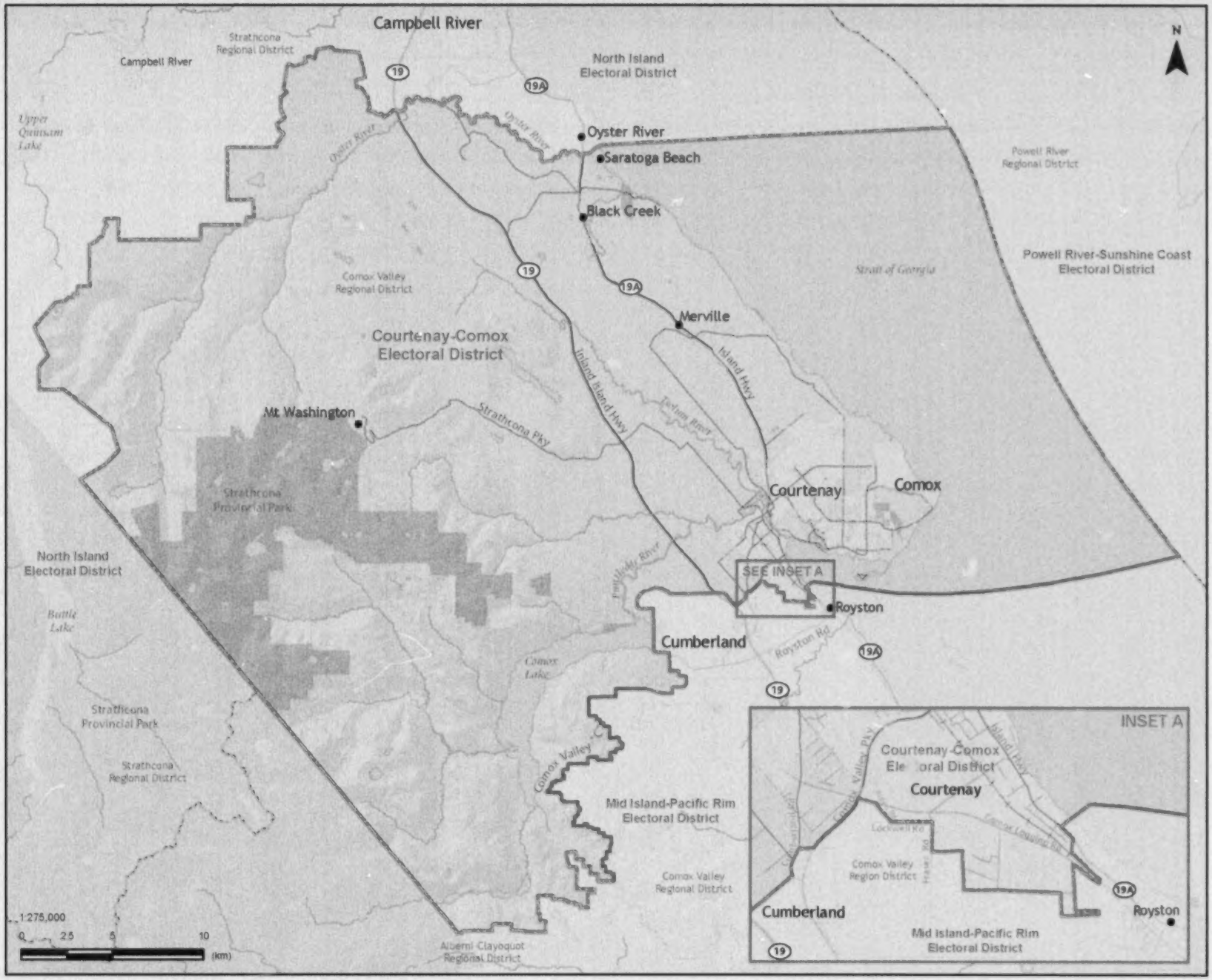
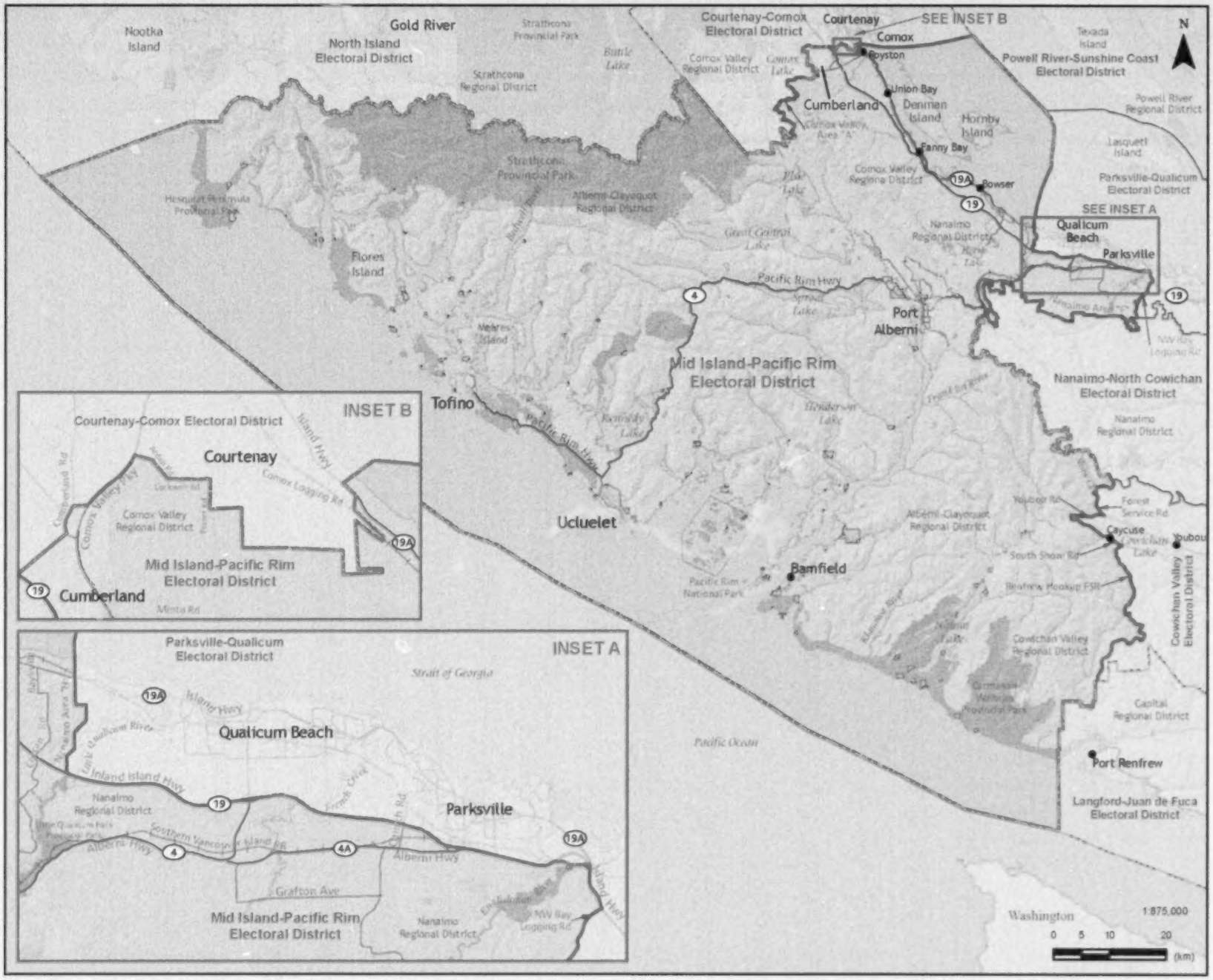
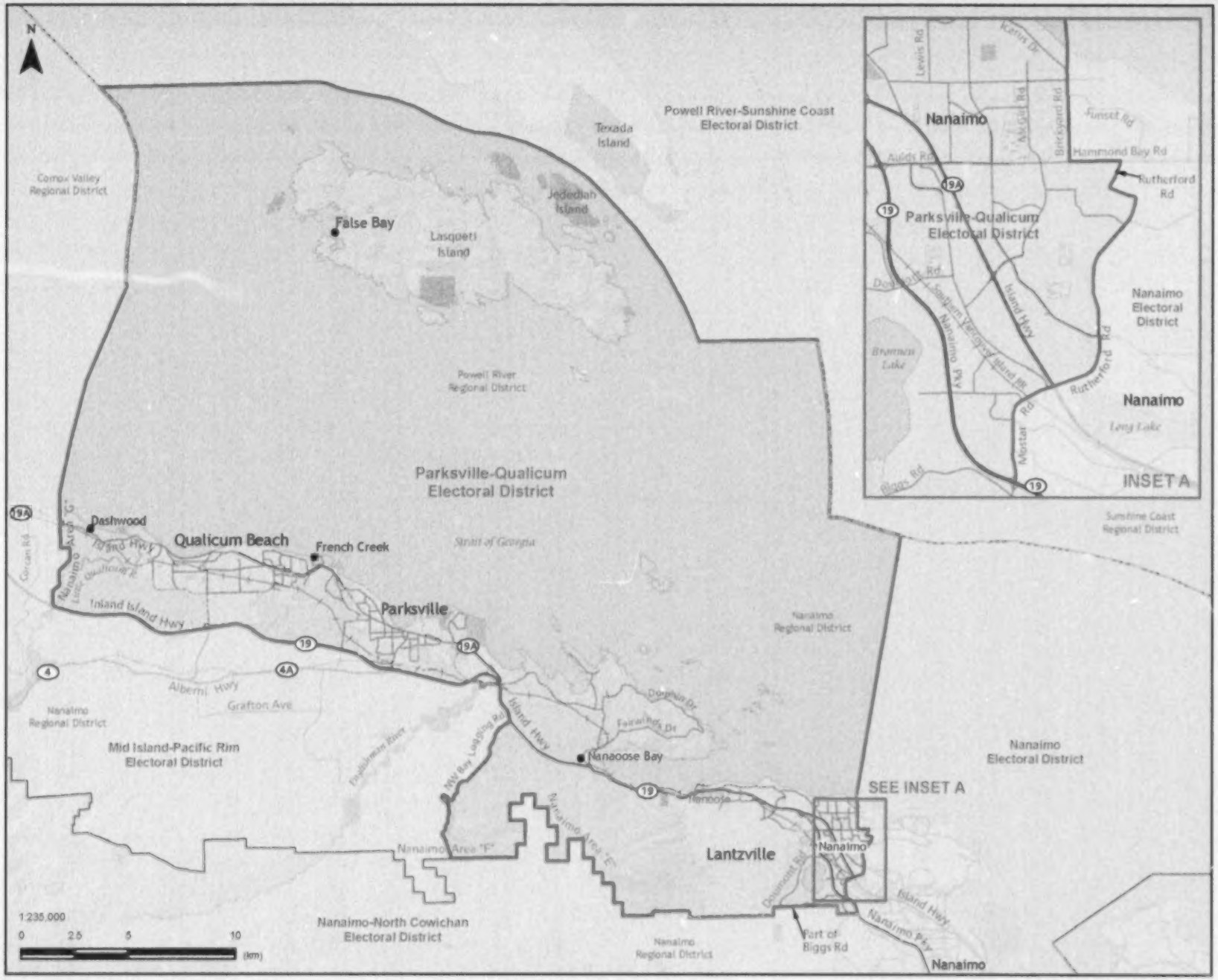
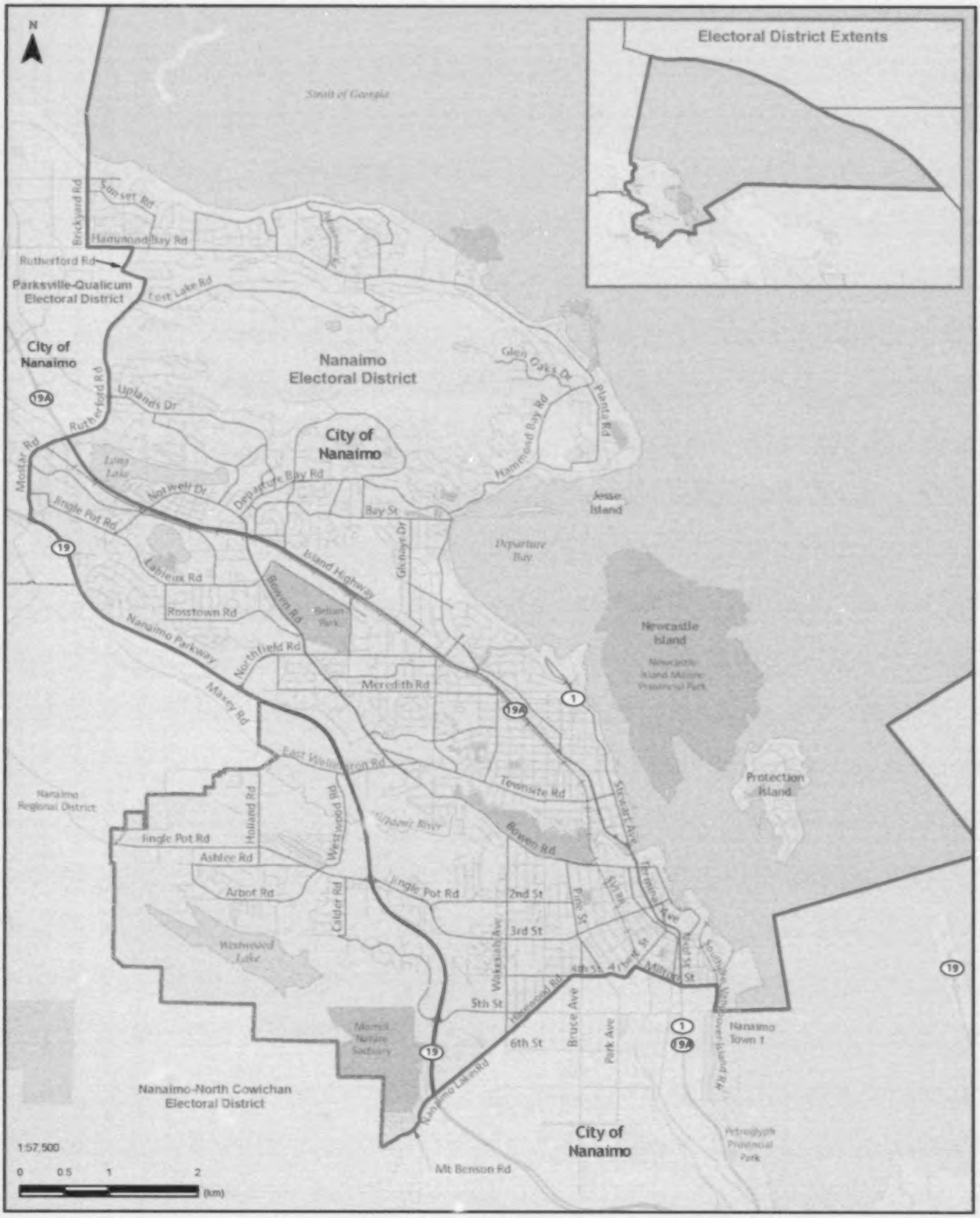
Campbell River
North Island Electoral District
Strathcona Regional District
Oyster River
Saratoga Beach
Comox Valley Regional District
Courtenay-Comox Electoral District
Jubilee Pky
Strait of Georgia
York Rd
Island Hwy
Inland Island Hwy
MacAulay Rd
Hamm Rd
19
19A
North Coast Electoral District
Central Coast Regional District
Rivers Inlet
Machmell River
Cariboo-Chilcotin Electoral District
Cariboo Regional District
Mount Waddington Regional District
Seymour Inlet
Kingcome Inlet
Thompson Sound
Hopetown
Hope Island
Triangle Island
Cape Scott Provincial Park
Holberg Rd
Holberg
Port Hardy
North Island Electoral District
Coal Harbour
Winter Harbour
Quatsino
Port McNeill
Sointula
Alert Bay
Kokish
Minstrel Island
West Cracroft Island
Knight Inlet
Bute Inlet
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Strathcona Regional District
Mahatta River
Port Alice
Nimpkish
Pacific Ocean
Hardwicke Island
West Thurlow Island
Sayward
Sonora Island
Island Hwy
Atlluck
Woss
Quadra Island
Read Island
Heriot Bay
Cortes Island
Cortes Bay
Powell River Regional District
Powell River
Campbell River
Kyuquot
Zeballos
Tahsis
Nuchatlitz
Nootka Island
Gold River
SEE INSET A
Courtenay-Comox Electoral District
Courtenay
Comox
Cumberland
Comox Valley Regional District
Yuquot
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
20
28
N
1:1,600,000
0 15 30 60
(km)


Campbell River
Strathcona Regional District
Campbell River
North Island Electoral District
19
19A
Upper Quinsam Lake
Oyster River
Oyster River
Oyster River
Saratoga Beach
Black Creek
Powell River Regional District
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Strait of Georgia
Comox Valley Regional District
Courtenay-Comox Electoral District
Merville
Inland Island Hwy
Island Hwy
Tsolum River
Mt Washington
Strathcona Pkwy
Courtenay
Comox
Strathcona Provincial Park
North Island Electoral District
SEE INSET A
Royston
Trent Hwy River
Cumberland
Royston Rd
Battle Lake
Comox Lake
Strathcona Provincial Park
Strathcona Regional District
Comox Valley
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Comox Valley Regional District
1:275,000
0 2.5 5 10
(km)
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
INSET A
Courtenay-Comox Electoral District
Courtenay
Comparison Valley Pkwy
Island Hwy
Lockwell Rd
Comox Valley Region District
Cumberland
Royston
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
N


Nootka Island
Gold River
North Island Electoral District
Strathcona Provincial Park
Strathcona Regional District
Courtenay-Comox Electoral District
Courtenay
Comox
Royston
SEE INSET B
Texada Island
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Union Bay
Cumberland
Denman Island
Hornby Island
Powell River Regional District
Fanny Bay
Lasqueti Island
Comox Valley Regional District
Bowser
Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District
SEE INSET A
Qualicum Beach
Parksville
Nanaimo Regional District
Flores Island
Pacific Rim Hwy
Port Alberni
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
Tofino
Ucluelet
Barnfield
Cycuse
Youbou
Cowichan Valley Electoral District
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Capital Regional District
Port Renfrew
Langford-Juan de Fuca Electoral District
Pacific Ocean
Strait of Georgia
Washington
1:875,000
0 5 10 20
(km)
INSET B
Courtenay-Comox Electoral District
Courtenay
Comox Valley Regional District
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Cumberland
INSET A
Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District
Qualicum Beach
Parksville
Nanaimo Regional District
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District


N
Powell River-Sunshine Coast Electoral District
Texada Island
Comox Valley Regional District
Jedediah Island
False Bay
Lasqueti Island
Powell River Regional District
Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District
Strait of Georgia
Sunshine Coast Regional District
Dashwood
Qualicum Beach
French Creek
Parksville
Inland Island Hwy
Nanaimo Regional District
Alberni Hwy
Grafton Ave
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Nanaoose Bay
Island Hwy
Nanaimo Electoral District
SEE INSET A
Lantzville
Nanaimo
Nanaimo Area "F"
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
Part of Biggs Rd
Nanaimo
1:235,000
0 2.5 5 10 (km)
Nanaimo
Levers Rd
Karris Dr
Abigail Rd
Birkyard Rd
Sunset Rd
Hammond Bay Rd
Aulds Rd
Rutherford Rd
Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District
Island Hwy
Nanaimo Electoral District
Brannen Lake
Nanaimo Pkwy
Mostar Rd
Long Lake
Biggs Rd
INSET A

Nanaimo


N
Electoral District Extents
Strait of Georgia
Brickyard Rd
Sunset Rd
Hammond Bay Rd
Rutherford Rd
Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District
East Lake Rd
City of Nanaimo
Nanaimo Electoral District
Glen Oaks Dr
Planta Rd
Uplands Dr
Rutherford Rd
Mostar Rd
Long Lake
Northfield Rd
Departure Bay Rd
Hammond Bay Rd
Jingle Pot Rd
Bay St
Jesse Island
Departure Bay
Island Highway
Gilbert Dr
Labieux Rd
Rosstown Rd
Bowen Rd
Nanaimo Parkway
Northfield Rd
Meredith Rd
Maxey Rd
Newcastle Island
East Wellington Rd
Townsite Rd
Protection Island
Nanaimo Regional District
Holland Rd
Westwood Rd
Haslam River
Jingle Pot Rd
Ashlee Rd
Arbot Rd
Bowen Rd
Stewart Ave
Terminal Ave
Calder Rd
2nd St
3rd St
Wakesiah Ave
Bruce Ave
Park Ave
Nanaimo River Rd
Millard St
Westwood Lake
Morrell Nature Sanctuary
5th St
Haliburton Rd
6th St
Nanaimo Lakes Rd
Nanaimo Town 1
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
City of Nanaimo
Petroglyph Provincial Park
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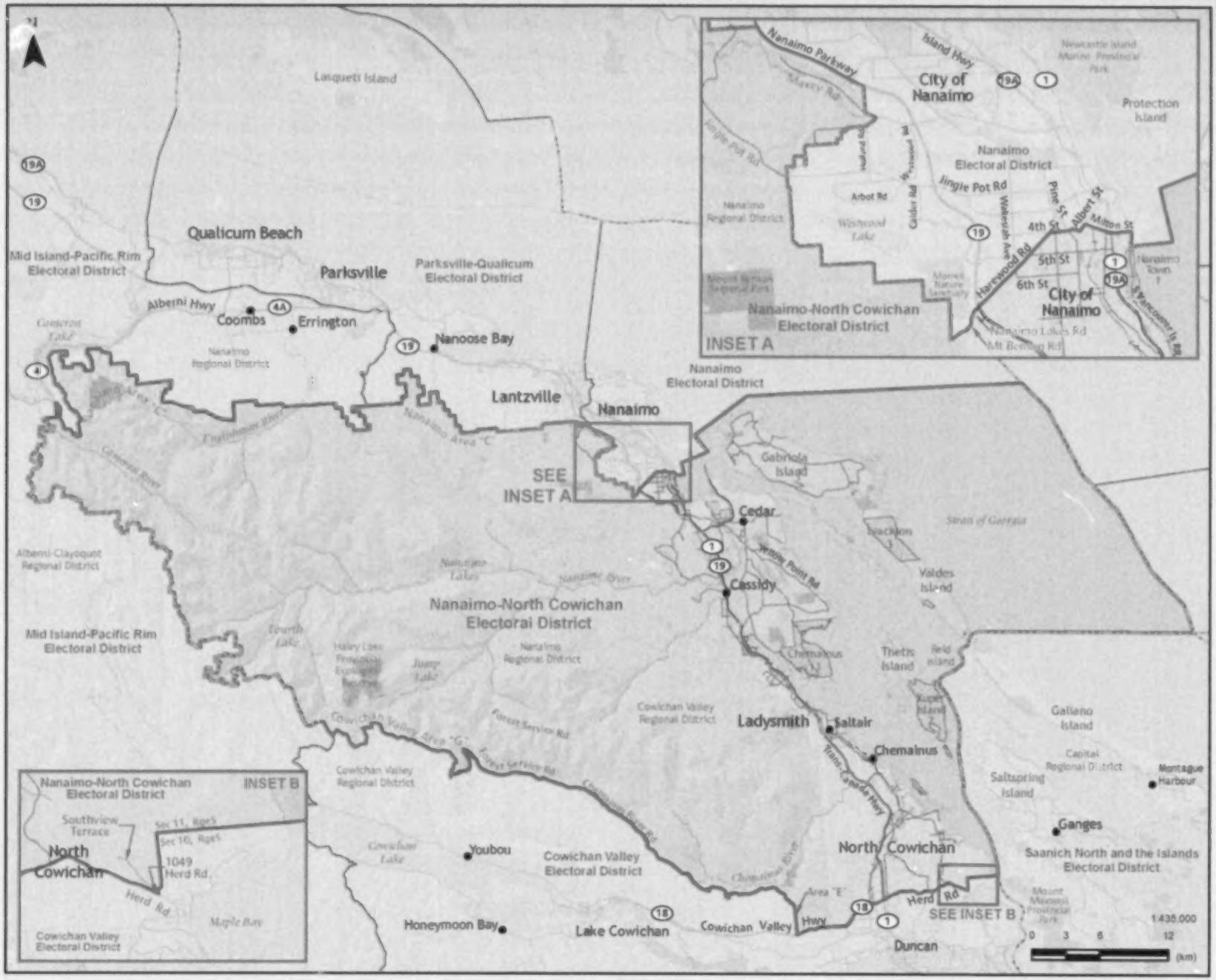
(km)


Lasqueti Island
Qualicum Beach
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Parksville
Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District
Alberni Hwy
Coombs
Errington
Nanoose Bay
Nanaimo Regional District
Lantzville
Nanaimo
Nanaimo Electoral District
SEE INSET A
Gabriola Island
Cedar
Strait of Georgia
Jingle Pot Rd
Cassidy
Valdes Island
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Nanaimo Regional District
Thetis Island
Penelakut Island
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Ladysmith
Saltair
Chemainus
Trans-Canada Hwy
Galiano Island
Capital Regional District
Saltspring Island
Montague Harbour
Ganges
Saanich North and the Islands Electoral District
North Cowichan
Youbou
Cowichan Valley Electoral District
Honeymoon Bay
Lake Cowichan
Cowichan Valley Hwy
Herd Rd
SEE INSET B
Duncan
1:435,000
0 3 6 12 (km)
INSET A
Nanaimo Parkway
Island Hwy
City of Nanaimo
Protection Island
Jingle Pot Rd
Arbot Rd
Pine St
Albert St
Milton St
4th St
5th St
6th St
Harewood Rd
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
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Southview Terrace
Sec 11, Rge5
Sec 10, Rge5
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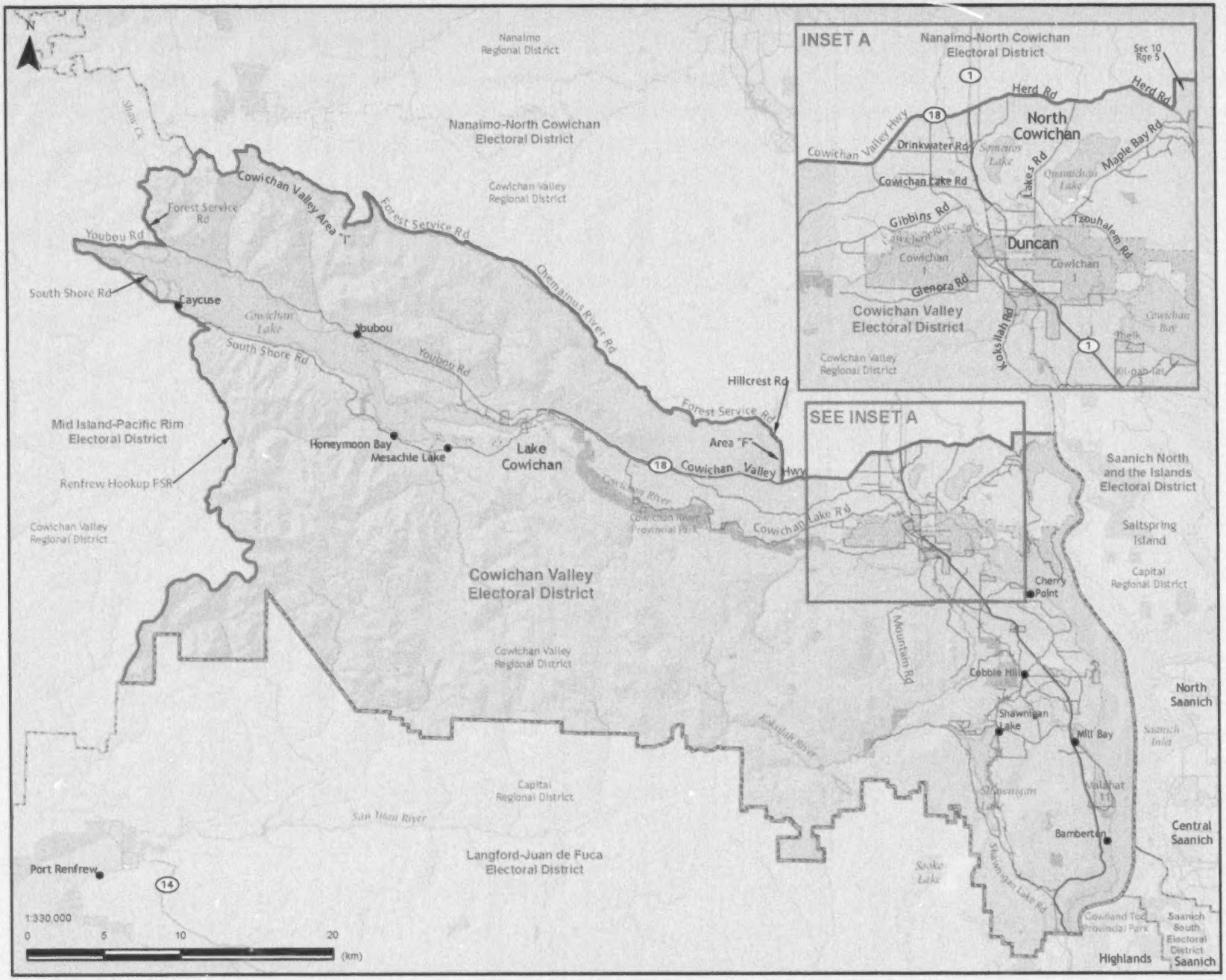
Herd Rd
Maple Bay
Cowichan Valley Electoral District


INSET A
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
Sec 10 Rge 5
Herd Rd
North Cowichan
Drinkwater Rd
Cowichan Valley Hwy
Cowichan Lake Rd
Lakes Rd
Maple Bay Rd
Gibbins Rd
Tzouhalem Rd
Duncan
Cowichan 1
Glenora Rd
Cowichan Valley Electoral District
Koksilah Rd
Cowichan Valley Regional District
SEE INSET A
Nanaimo Regional District
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Cowichan Valley Area "I"
Forest Service Rd
Youbou Rd
South Shore Rd
Caycuse
Cowichan Lake
Youbou
Chemainus River Rd
Hillcrest Rd
Area "F"
Cowichan Valley Hwy
Honeymoon Bay
Mesachie Lake
Lake Cowichan
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Renfrew Hookup FSR
Cowichan River Provincial Park
Cowichan Lake Rd
Cowichan Valley Electoral District
Saanich North and the Islands Electoral District
Saltspring Island
Capital Regional District
Cherry Point
Mountain Rd
Cobble Hill
Shawnigan Lake
Mill Bay
North Saanich
Koksilah River
Capital Regional District
San Juan River
Bamberton
Central Saanich
Langford-Juan de Fuca Electoral District
Port Renfrew
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Cowichan Bay
Cowichan Tribes
Kil-pah-las
Highlands
Saanich South Electoral District
Saanich
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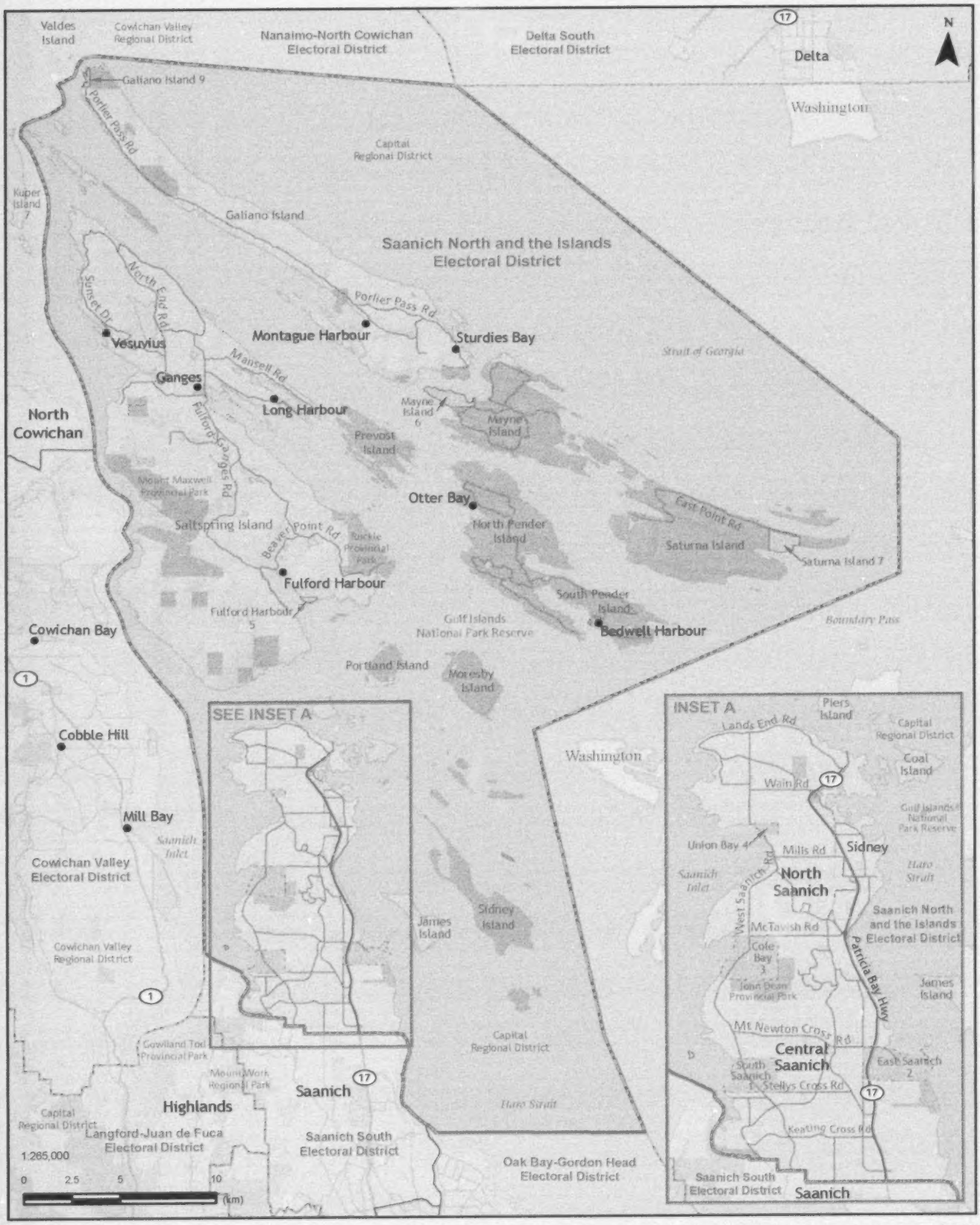
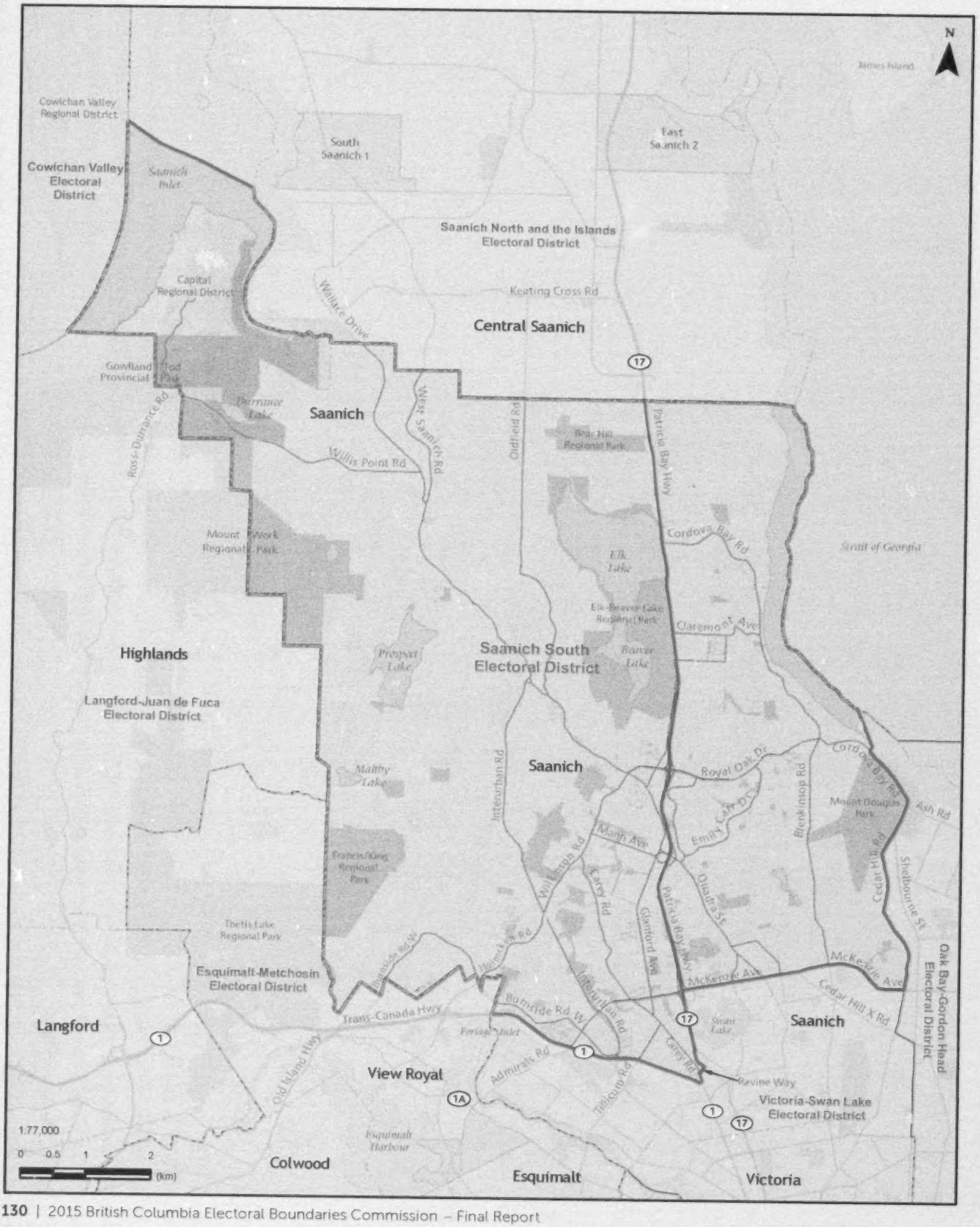
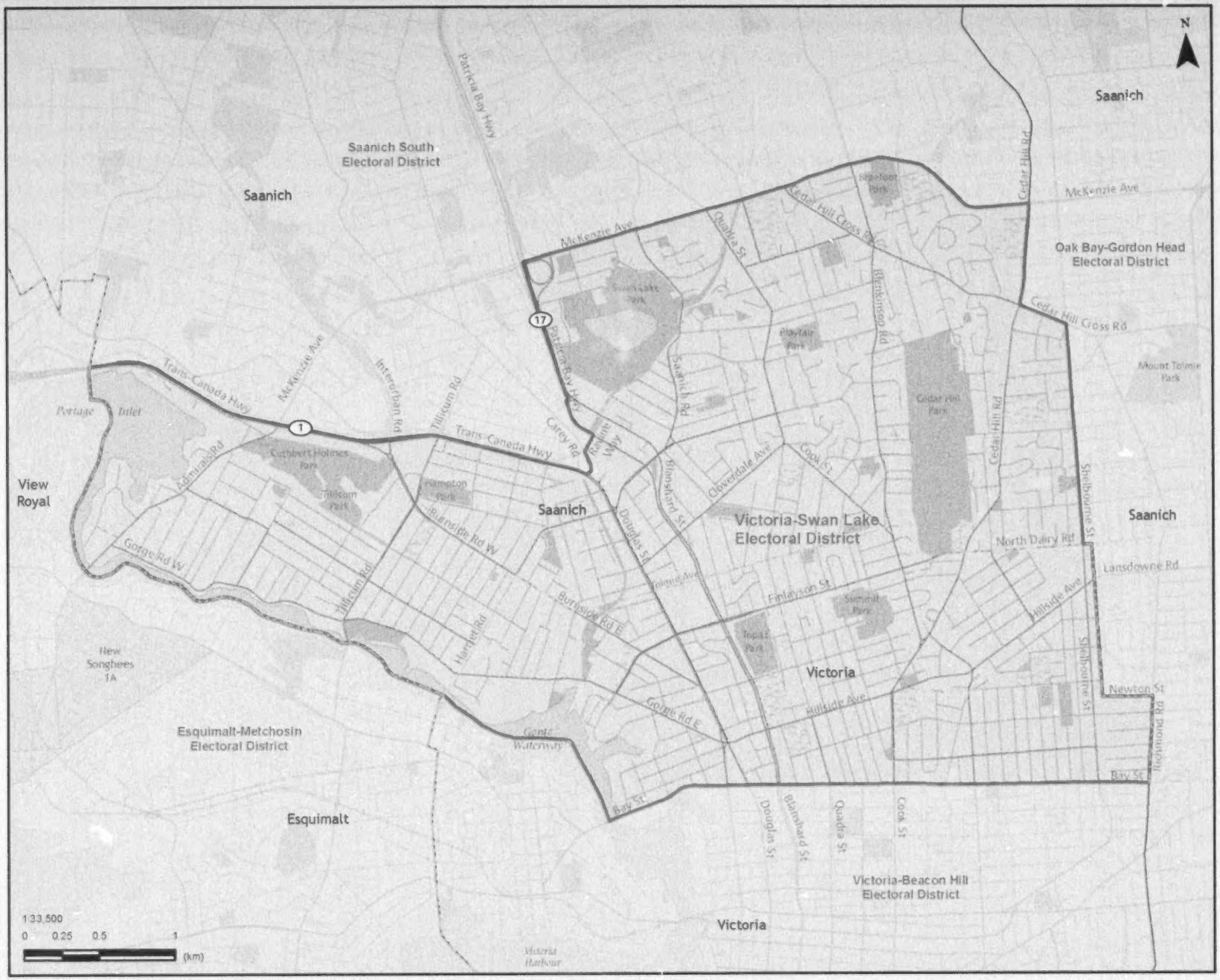

Saanich North and the Islands Electoral District
Valdes Island
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Nanaimo-North Cowichan Electoral District
Delta South Electoral District
Delta
N
Galiano Island 9
Porlier Pass Rd
Washington
Capital Regional District
Kuper Island 7
Galiano Island
Sunset Dr
North End Rd
Vesuvius
Montague Harbour
Porlier Pass Rd
Sturdies Bay
Strait of Georgia
Mansell Rd
Ganges
Long Harbour
Fulford-Ganges Rd
Mayne Island 6
Mayne Island
North Cowichan
Prevost Island
Mount Maxwell Provincial Park
Otter Bay
East Point Rd
North Pender Island
Saltspring Island
Point Rd
Beaver
Tuckie Provincial Park
Saturna Island
Saturna Island 7
Fulford Harbour
South Pender Island
Fulford Harbour 5
Gulf Islands National Park Reserve
Bedwell Harbour
Boundary Pass
Cowichan Bay
Portland Island
Moresby Island
1
SEE INSET A
Cobble Hill
Mill Bay
Saanich Inlet
Cowichan Valley Electoral District
Cowichan Valley Regional District
James Island
Sidney Island
Gowland Tod Provincial Park
Mount Work Regional Park
Capital Regional District
Saanich
17
Highlands
Haro Strait
Capital Regional District
Langford-Juan de Fuca Electoral District
Saanich South Electoral District
Oak Bay-Gordon Head Electoral District
1:265,000
0 2.5 5 10 (km)
INSET A
Piers Island
Lands End Rd
Capital Regional District
Coal Island
Wain Rd
17
Gulf Islands National Park Reserve
Union Bay 4
Mills Rd
Sidney
Saanich Inlet
West Saanich Rd
North Saanich
Haro Strait
Saanich North and the Islands Electoral District
McTavish Rd
Cole Bay 3
Patricia Bay Hwy
James Island
John Dean Provincial Park
Mt Newton Cross Rd
Central Saanich
East Saanich 2
South Saanich 1
Stellys Cross Rd
17
Keating Cross Rd
Saanich South Electoral District
Saanich

Saanich South




N
Saanich
Saanich South Electoral District
Saanich
Oak Bay-Gordon Head Electoral District
View Royal
Victoria-Swan Lake Electoral District
Saanich
Esquimalt-Metchosin Electoral District
Victoria
Esquimalt
Victoria-Beacon Hill Electoral District
Victoria
Patricia Bay Hwy
McKenzie Ave
Trans-Canada Hwy
Interurban Rd
Tillicum Rd
Carey Rd
Admirals Rd
Gorge Rd W
Burnside Rd W
Burnside Rd E
Harriet Rd
Gorge Rd E
Bay St
Douglas St
Blanshard St
Quadra St
Cook St
Cedar Hill Rd
Cedar Hill Cross Rd
Blenkinsop Rd
Saanich Rd
Glenlyon Valley
Cloverdale Ave
Holmes Ave
Finlayson St
North Dairy Rd
Lansdowne Rd
Hillside Ave
Shelbourne St
Newton St
Pat Bay Highway
Mount Tolmie Park
Cedar Hill Park
Summit Park
Topaz Park
Swan Lake Park
Cuthbert Holmes Park
Tillicum Park
Hampton Park
Portage Inlet
New Songhees 1A
Gorge Waterway
Victoria Harbour
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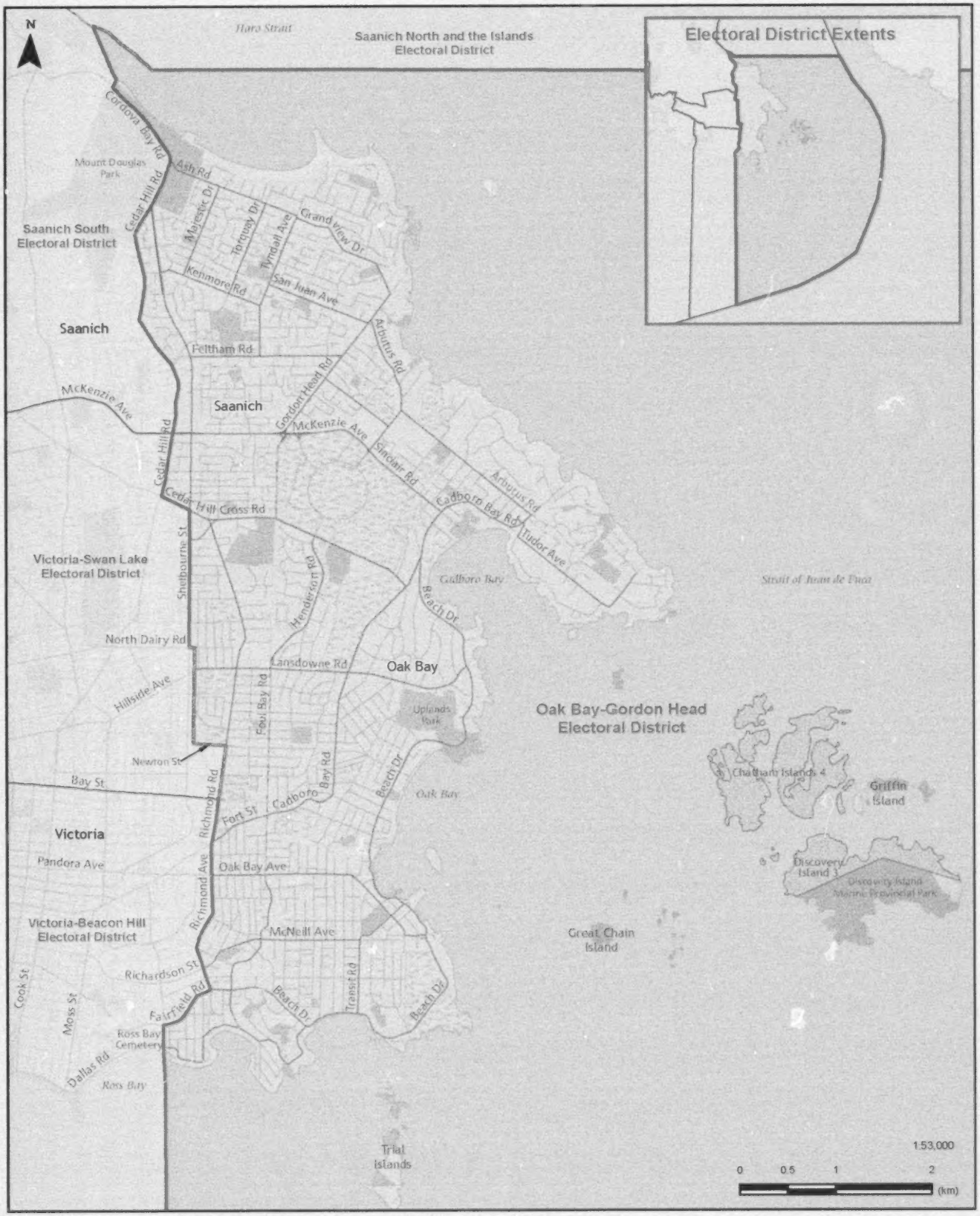
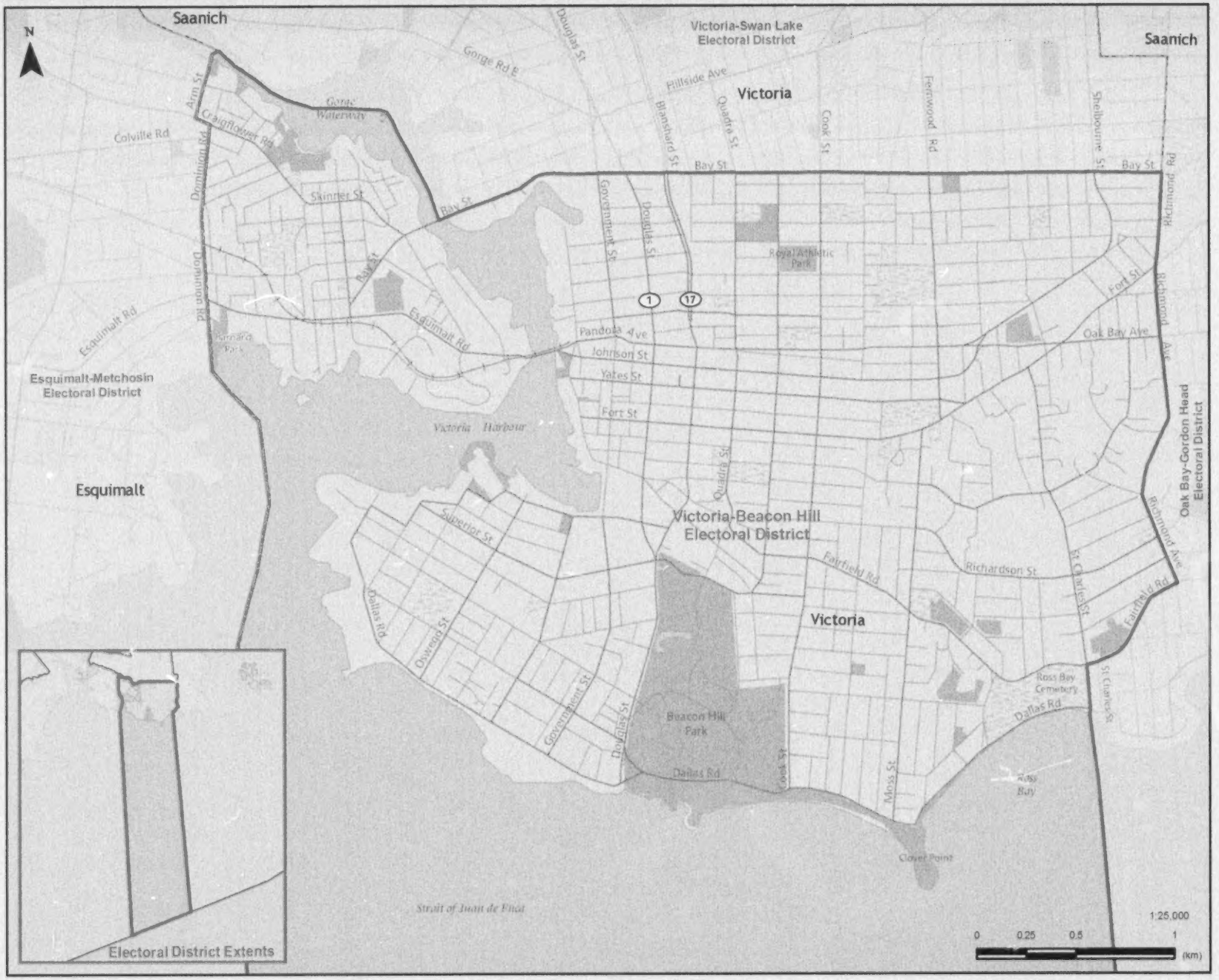
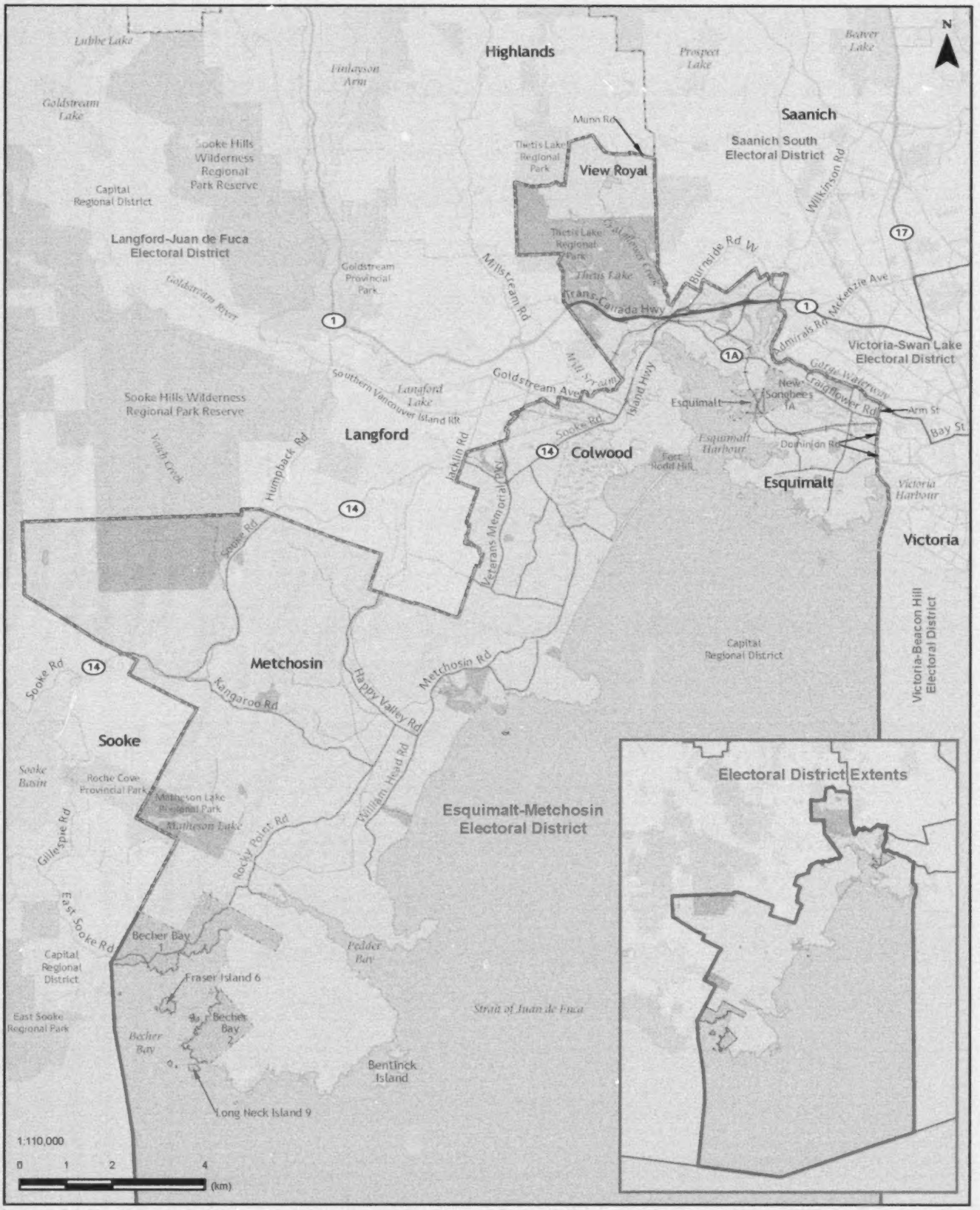
0 0.25 0.5 1
(km)

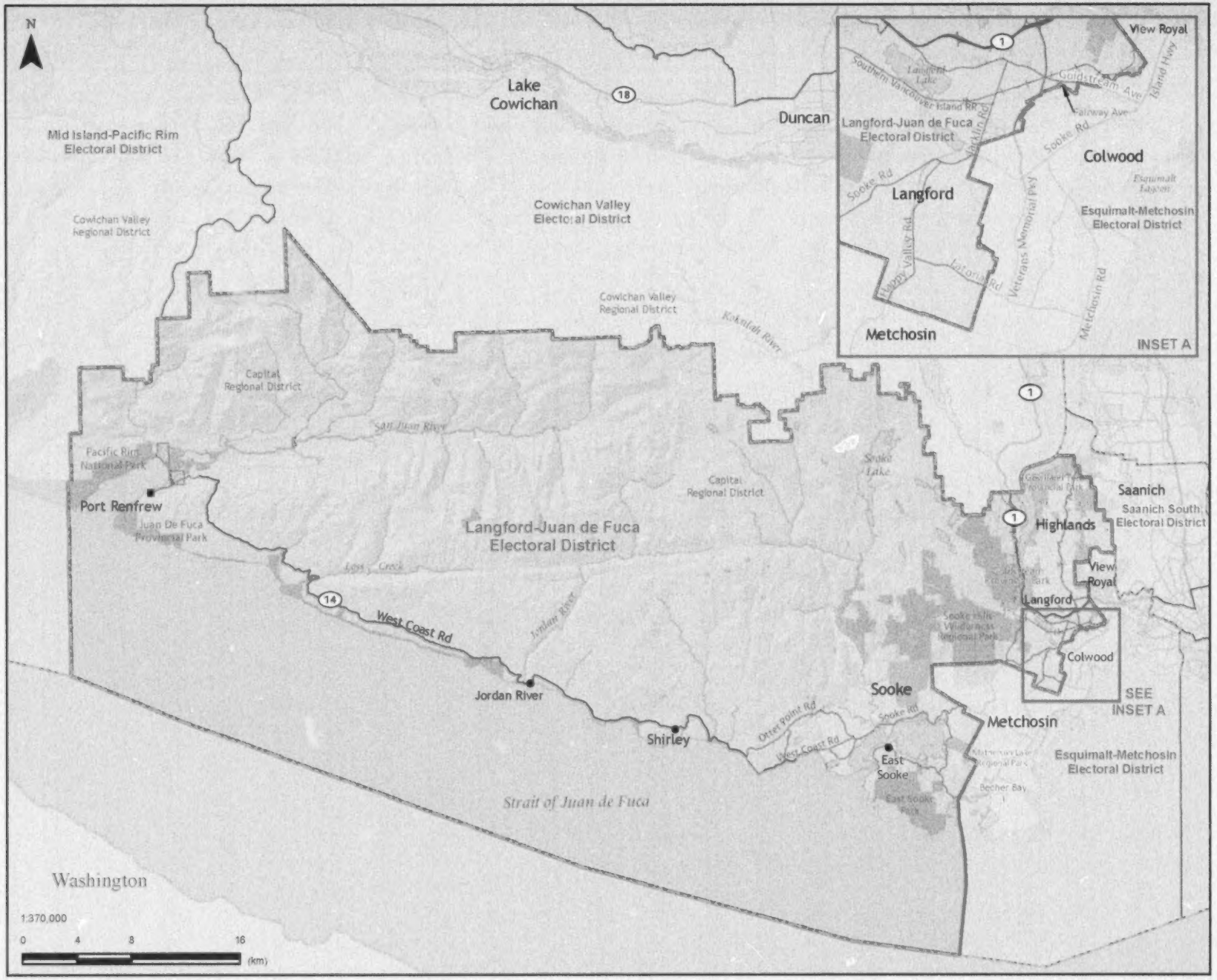
Oak Bay-Gordon Head



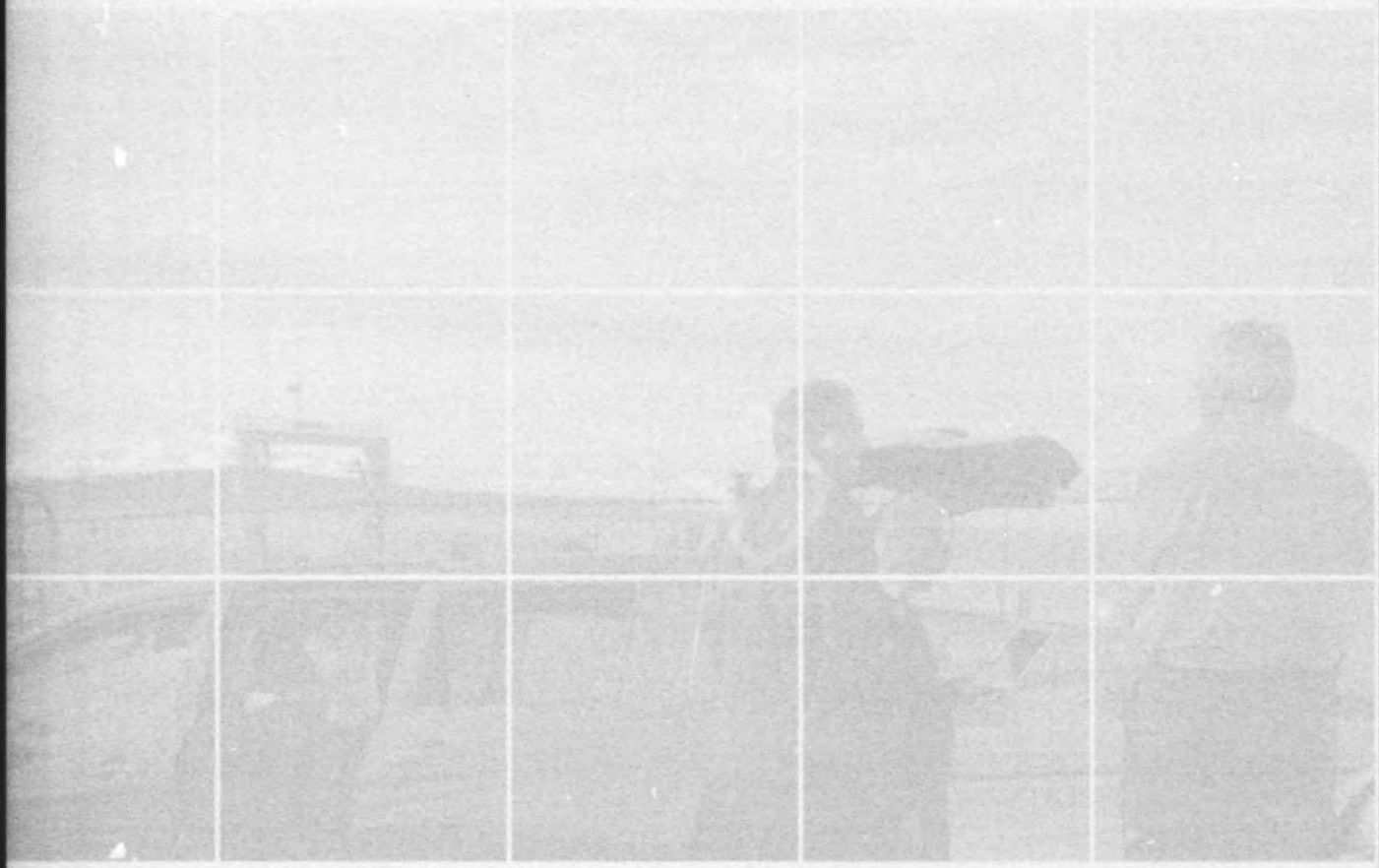

N
Saanich
Victoria-Swan Lake Electoral District
Saanich
Victoria
Gorge Rd E
Douglas St
Pillside Ave
Blanshard St
Quadra St
Cook St
Fernwood Rd
Shelbourne St
Bay St
Richmond Rd
Colville Rd
Arm St
Craigflower Rd
Gorge Waterway
Dominion Rd
Skinner St
Bay St
Government St
Douglas St
Royal Athletic Park
Fort St
Richmond Ave
Esquimalt Rd
Pandora Ave
Johnson St
Yates St
Fort St
Oak Bay Ave
Esquimalt-Metchosin Electoral District
Victoria Harbour
Oak Bay-Gordon Head Electoral District
Esquimalt
Victoria-Beacon Hill Electoral District
Superior St
Dallas Rd
Quadra St
Fairfield Rd
Richardson St
St Charles St
Victoria
Ross Bay Cemetery
Beacon Hill Park
Cook St
Moss St
Ross Bay
Clover Point
Strait of Juan de Fuca
1:25,000
0 0.25 0.5 1 (km)
Electoral District Extents

Esquimalt-Metchosin




N
Lake Cowichan
18
Duncan
Mid Island-Pacific Rim Electoral District
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Cowichan Valley Electoral District
Cowichan Valley Regional District
Koksilah River
Capital Regional District
San Juan River
Pacific Rim National Park
Port Renfrew
Juan De Fuca Provincial Park
Capital Regional District
Langford-Juan de Fuca Electoral District
Lost Creek
14
West Coast Rd
Jordan River
Jordan River
Shirley
Strait of Juan de Fuca
Washington
1:370,000
0 4 8 16
(km)
1
Saanich
Saanich South Electoral District
Highlands
View Royal
Langford
Colwood
Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park
SEE INSET A
Sooke
Sooke Rd
Otter Point Rd
West Coast Rd
Metchosin
East Sooke
Becher Bay
East Sooke Park
Esquimalt-Metchosin Electoral District
INSET A
View Royal
Langford-Juan de Fuca Electoral District
Goldstream Ave
Island Hwy
Galloway Ave
Sooke Rd
Colwood
Esquimalt Lagoon
Langford
Esquimalt-Metchosin Electoral District
Happy Valley Rd
Veterans Memorial Pkwy
Metchosin Rd
Metchosin

Next steps

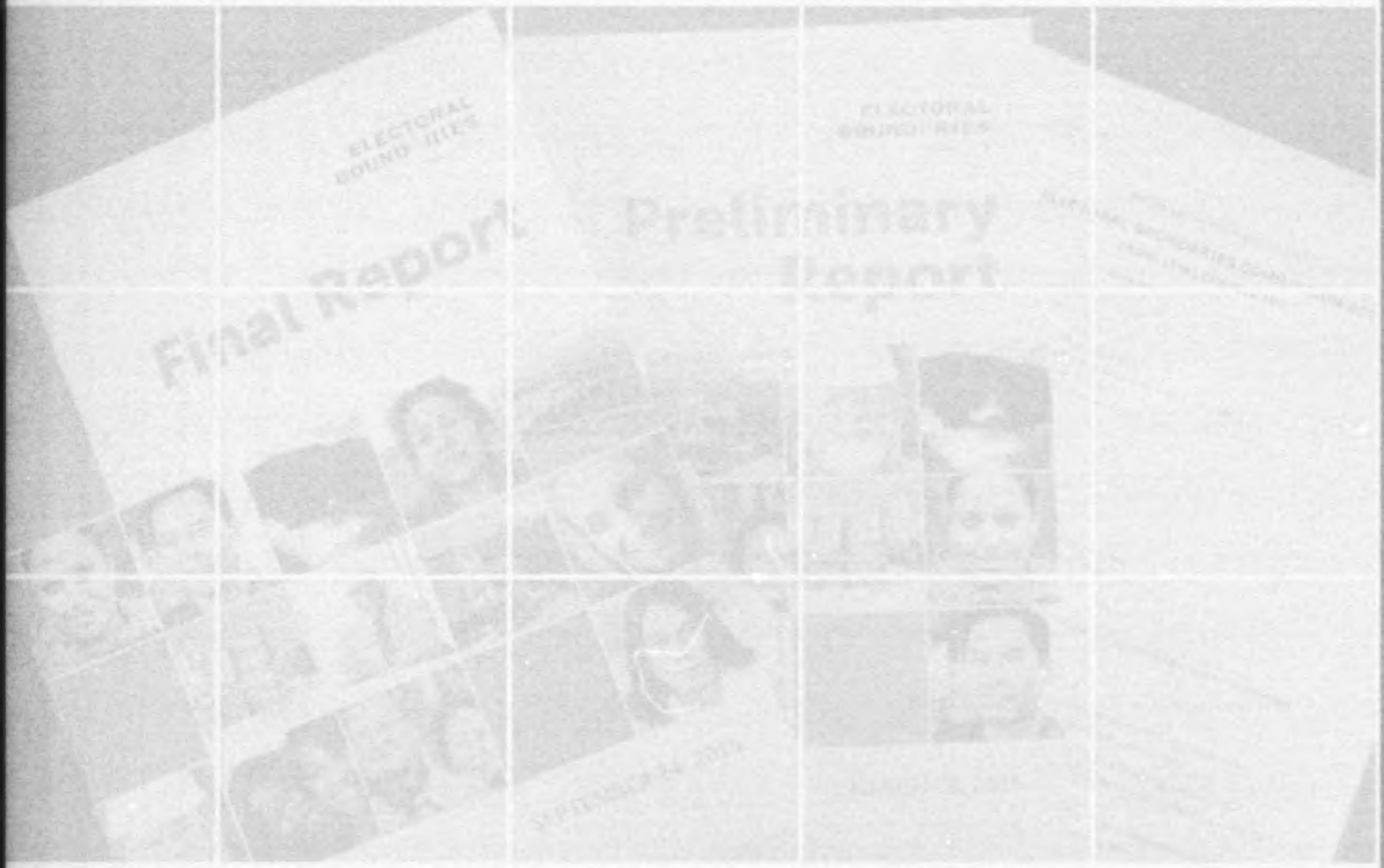


Next steps

We submit this report containing our final proposals to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on September 24, 2015 in accordance with the requirements of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*. With the submission of this report, the work of the commission is complete.

The proposals contained in our Final Report are recommendations. The final decision regarding adoption of our proposals lies with the Members of the Legislative Assembly. Once electoral boundaries are officially adopted by the Legislative Assembly they will come into force at the time of the next general election and will apply to the anticipated 2017 and 2021 provincial general elections.

Considerations for the Legislative Assembly



Considerations for the Legislative Assembly

A number of matters have arisen during the course of our work that have caused us to reflect on various aspects of the administration of our commission and of future commissions in British Columbia. We raise these matters for consideration by legislators.

Administrative support for British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commissions

Prior to this commission, the practice in British Columbia was to create a separate administrative entity to provide all administrative support for the Electoral Boundaries Commission during its existence. This included such support as establishing separate office space, staffing, financial management, information management, information technology, communications services and similar operational support services. The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* anticipates such an administrative and staffing model and provides that the commission may hire staff.

Elections BC provided the administrative support for our commission, and this proved to be very beneficial in a number of respects. The commission was able to establish itself very quickly following the appointment of the commissioners in May 2014. We were conducting our initial meetings and briefing sessions in early June in the Elections BC offices. We did not secure any additional office space, were able to take advantage of many staffing services through Elections BC, and in the end spent less than 35% of the $4.5 million initially allocated to the work of the commission.

Since in British Columbia the Chief Electoral Officer is an independent Officer of the Legislature and by statute a member of the Electoral Boundaries Commission, obtaining administrative support from Elections BC does not threaten the independence of the Electoral Boundaries Commission. Thus, adopting this administrative model seems particularly sensible. Therefore, we recommend that the Legislative Assembly consider including in the *Act* a requirement for Elections BC to provide this support to future commissions.

The challenges for representation by population in light of British Columbia's uneven population growth and the current legislative framework

According to the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, representation in the Legislative Assembly must be governed by the principle of representation by population. Some parts of communities grow more rapidly, some grow more slowly, and some even decrease in population. The work of an electoral boundaries commission provides an opportunity to consider whether the relative changes in population are such as to undermine this principle of representation by population. Where this is the case, Electoral Boundaries Commissions are mandated to propose changes to electoral districts that correct this.

The May 2014 amendments to the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* prohibit a reduction in the number of electoral districts in the North, Cariboo-Thompson and Columbia-Kootenay regions. These regions contain electoral districts whose populations generally are much smaller than the provincial average, and furthermore, contain areas of the province whose population is growing more slowly than the provincial average.

Effectively freezing the number of electoral districts in regions with slower or negative growth has led to more electoral districts further from the provincial average in the rest of the province; this effect is most prominent in areas of rapid growth.

Relative to the 1999 Commission, the 2008 Commission and our commission have proposed more electoral districts with populations that are

further from the provincial average. Increasing the number of electoral districts only goes so far to address the different rates of growth, and electoral districts are becoming more unequal in population over time especially in the defined regions.

Whereas the 1999 Commission proposals[6] provided for 60% of the electoral districts to be within +/-10% of the provincial average, this has decreased to only 46% of our proposals. Consequently, more than half of our proposed electoral districts are more than +/-10% of the provincial average and 10 are greater than 25% below average (two are more than 50%). As more electoral districts stray toward the outer limits of the permissible range dictated by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* and the Supreme Court, the principle of representation by population is weakened (see Appendix E for more details).

The 1999 Commission stated their view was:

> "the caselaw directs that any deviation from the electoral quota must be justified. Furthermore, we read the discussion of the constitutional principles in the cases (which they considered) as imposing on us an obligation to minimize deviations and to rationalize the populations of neighbouring electoral districts, wherever possible, subject to the other factors relevant to effective representation which may be taken into account."[7]

Under the current legislative framework, it is becoming increasingly difficult to begin from the premise that deviations can be kept to a minimum. Indeed, while keeping ever mindful of the need for relative population equality, we were drawn inexorably to recommend electoral districts with growing population inequality.

As proposed in the conclusion to the 2008 Commission Report, the Legislative Assembly did in fact develop a new legislative model to guide the work of our commission. With the advantage of the fruits of our labour, the Legislative Assembly is now in a good position to assess the degree to which this legislative solution achieves the appropriate balance required between the principle of representation by population, and the need to take into account other representational imperatives.

6 Following publication of the 2007 Preliminary Report of the 2008 Commission, the government indicated that it opposed the proposed redistribution (which would have led to a reduction in the number of seats in the three regions of the North, the Cariboo-Thompson and the Columbia-Kootenay), and introduced legislation to require no reduction in the number of districts in these regions. Although the legislation did not pass, the 2008 Commission nonetheless included in its final report a set of electoral boundaries that were consistent with the proposed legislation. In doing so, the 2008 Commission indicated they were not its recommended electoral district boundaries. Nonetheless, these are the boundaries that subsequently were adopted by the Legislative Assembly, and it is these districts that are used in the calculations in Appendix E.

7 *Amendments to the December 3, 1998 Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia*, p 9

Appendices

Appendices

Appendix A: Population estimates, current 85 electoral districts (2008 Commission)

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Abbotsford-Mission	55,003	1.2	666
Abbotsford South	55,730	2.5	211
Abbotsford West	52,940	-2.6	105
Alberni-Pacific Rim	43,560	-19.9	13,172
Boundary-Similkameen	37,840	-30.4	11,174
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,193	7.0	14
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	11.2	22
Burnaby-Lougheed	56,599	4.1	36
Burnaby North	61,272	12.7	24
Cariboo-Chilcotin	29,767	-45.3	43,321
Cariboo North	33,295	-38.8	39,770
Chilliwack	55,002	1.2	146
Chilliwack-Hope	53,122	-2.3	10,813
Columbia River-Revelstoke	32,521	-40.2	39,732
Comox Valley	64,900	19.4	2,526
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	8.6	620
Coquitlam-Maillardville	60,393	11.1	32
Cowichan Valley	59,232	8.9	1,685
Delta North	55,011	1.2	32
Delta South	47,577	-12.5	464
Esquimalt-Royal Roads	52,815	-2.9	69
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	71,470	31.5	233
Fraser-Nicola	31,182	-42.6	33,784
Juan de Fuca	57,426	5.6	2,759
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	-0.7	21,641
Kamloops-South Thompson	55,983	3.0	2,377
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	12.4	1,165
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	11.1	528
Kootenay East	39,852	-26.7	11,182
Kootenay West	41,302	-24.0	12,009
Langley	69,543	27.9	95
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	8.0	392

Appendix A: Population estimates, current 85 electoral districts (2008 Commission), continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	7.2	1,980
Nanaimo	54,852	0.9	449
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	54,560	0.4	2,709
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-49.1	73,795
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-32.1	13,212
New Westminster	68,956	26.8	18
North Coast	22,382	-58.8	143,856
North Island	55,633	2.3	45,034
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	59,657	9.7	26
North Vancouver-Seymour	55,894	2.8	387
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	50,310	-7.5	315
Parksville-Qualicum	53,288	-2.0	962
Peace River North	43,263	-20.4	175,813
Peace River South	28,104	-48.3	30,364
Penticton	56,722	4.3	1,910
Port Coquitlam	60,813	11.9	35
Port Moody-Coquitlam	57,313	5.4	83
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-8.0	21,007
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,562	-14.4	20,440
Prince George-Valemount	48,599	-10.6	31,538
Richmond Centre	70,374	29.4	440
Richmond East	69,599	28.0	92
Richmond-Steveston	63,004	15.9	32
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	3.9	1,519
Saanich South	51,661	-5.0	91
Shuswap	56,356	3.7	8,637
Skeena	30,240	-44.4	31,649
Stikine	20,616	-62.1	196,446
Surrey-Cloverdale	79,362	46.0	121
Surrey-Fleetwood	61,775	13.6	21
Surrey-Green Timbers	62,973	15.8	19
Surrey-Newton	65,511	20.5	14
Surrey-Panorama	75,462	38.8	62
Surrey-Tynehead	63,969	17.7	60
Surrey-Whalley	65,812	21.0	30

Appendix A: Population estimates, current 85 electoral districts (2008 Commission), continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Surrey-White Rock	55,585	2.2	61
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	9.8	9
Vancouver-False Creek	61,251	12.7	7
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	15.7	13
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	9.4	14
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	12.7	9
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	14.9	9
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	10.4	15
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	6.8	13
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	11.5	42
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	10.3	23
Vancouver-West End	53,297	-2.0	13
Vernon-Monashee	62,102	14.2	5,034
Victoria-Beacon Hill	53,077	-2.4	102
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-5.2	18
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	5.2	80
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	54,894	1.0	9,598
Westside-Kelowna	59,750	9.9	1,140
Total	**4,621,394**		

Appendix B: Population estimates, proposed 87 electoral districts (2015 Commission)

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Abbotsford-Mission	60,962	14.8	660
Abbotsford South	61,997	16.7	243
Abbotsford West	60,339	13.6	135
Boundary-Similkameen	42,340	-20.3	15,614
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,195	9.6	14
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	13.8	22
Burnaby-Lougheed	59,797	12.6	37
Burnaby North	58,159	9.5	23
Cariboo-Chilcotin	33,520	-36.9	44,512
Cariboo North	29,542	-44.4	38,579
Chilliwack	49,089	-7.6	135
Chilliwack-Kent	51,021	-3.9	3,168
Columbia River-Revelstoke	31,907	-39.9	37,704
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	11.1	620
Coquitlam-Maillardville	58,351	9.8	30
Courtenay-Comox	54,816	3.2	1,584
Cowichan Valley	59,232	11.5	1,685
Delta North	55,011	3.6	32
Delta South	47,577	-10.4	464
Esquimalt-Metchosin	51,450	-3.1	378
Fraser-Nicola	34,034	-35.9	34,830
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	1.7	21,642
Kamloops-South Thompson	56,410	6.2	2,436
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	15.0	1,165
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	13.7	528
Kelowna West	59,750	12.5	1,142
Kootenay East	40,466	-23.8	13,210
Kootenay West	41,302	-22.2	12,009
Langford-Juan de Fuca	51,782	-2.5	2,447
Langley	59,812	12.6	59
Langley East	61,576	15.9	186
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	10.5	393
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	9.7	1,980
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	52,833	-0.5	14,099
Nanaimo	57,008	7.3	458

Appendix B: Population estimates, proposed 87 electoral districts (2015 Commission), continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	52,414	-1.3	2,700
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-47.9	73,797
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-30.5	13,212
New Westminster	61,422	15.6	14
North Coast	22,382	-57.9	143,864
North Island	55,633	4.7	45,034
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	57,431	8.1	25
North Vancouver-Seymour	58,120	9.4	388
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	55,689	4.8	330
Parksville-Qualicum	54,089	1.8	978
Peace River North	43,263	-18.6	175,813
Peace River South	28,104	-47.1	30,364
Penticton	56,722	6.8	1,908
Port Coquitlam	60,813	14.5	35
Port Moody-Coquitlam	59,355	11.7	85
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-5.8	21,007
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,894	-11.7	20,511
Prince George-Valemount	48,267	-9.1	31,467
Richmond North Centre	49,157	-7.5	440
Richmond-Queensborough	55,627	4.7	92
Richmond South Centre	50,101	-5.7	7
Richmond-Steveston	55,539	4.6	30
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	6.3	1,519
Saanich South	51,661	-2.7	91
Shuswap	56,352	6.1	8,610
Skeena	30,240	-43.1	31,610
Stikine	20,616	-61.2	196,484
Surrey-Cloverdale	59,649	12.3	55
Surrey-Fleetwood	60,477	13.9	17
Surrey-Green Timbers	58,816	10.7	18
Surrey-Guildford	58,037	9.3	42
Surrey-Newton	58,340	9.8	12
Surrey-Panorama	60,128	13.2	24
Surrey South	57,746	8.7	125
Surrey-Whalley	58,668	10.4	27
Surrey-White Rock	58,588	10.3	68

Appendix B: Population estimates, proposed 87 electoral districts (2015 Commission), continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	12.4	9
Vancouver-False Creek	57,261	7.8	6
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	18.4	13
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	12.0	14
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	15.3	9
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	17.6	9
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	13.0	15
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	9.3	13
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	14.1	42
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	12.9	23
Vancouver-West End	57,287	7.8	14
Vernon-Monashee	62,106	16.9	5,035
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,707	3.0	90
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-2.9	18
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	7.6	80
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	55,129	3.8	11,709
Total	**4,621,394**		

Appendix C: First round public hearings schedule – Fall 2014

Date	City/Town
North	
Monday, Sept. 22, 2014	Prince Rupert
Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2014	Terrace
Tuesday, Sept. 23, 2014	Smithers
Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014	Fort Nelson
Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2014	Dawson Creek
Thursday, Sept. 25, 2014	Prince George
Friday, Sept. 26, 2014	Quesnel
Friday, Sept. 26, 2014	Williams Lake
Central and Interior	
Monday, Oct. 6, 2014	Kamloops
Monday, Oct. 6, 2014	Salmon Arm
Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2014	Revelstoke
Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2014	Cranbrook
Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2014	Trail
Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2014	Penticton
Thursday, Oct. 9, 2014	Kelowna
Lower Mainland	
Monday, Oct. 20, 2014	Squamish
Tuesday, Oct. 21, 2014	Vancouver
Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2014	Burnaby
Wednesday, Oct. 22, 2014	Port Coquitlam
Thursday, Oct. 23, 2014	Surrey
Friday, Oct. 24, 2014	Langley
Friday, Oct. 24, 2014	Abbotsford
Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast	
Monday, Nov. 3, 2014	Sechelt
Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014	Powell River
Tuesday, Nov. 4, 2014	Courtenay
Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2014	Campbell River
Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2014	Port Alberni
Thursday, Nov. 6, 2014	Nanaimo
Thursday, Nov. 6, 2014	Victoria
Friday, Nov. 7, 2014	Victoria

Appendix D: Second round public hearings schedule – Spring 2015

Date	City/Town
Lower Mainland	
Tuesday, Apr. 14, 2015	Hope
Wednesday, Apr. 15, 2015	Abbotsford
Wednesday, Apr. 15, 2015	Langley
Thursday, Apr. 16, 2015	Surrey
Thursday, Apr. 16, 2015	North Vancouver
Friday, Apr. 17, 2015	Vancouver
Friday, Apr. 17, 2015	Richmond
Interior and North	
Tuesday, May 12, 2015	Williams Lake
Tuesday, May 12, 2015	Prince George
Wednesday, May 13, 2015	Kamloops
Wednesday, May 13, 2015	Vernon
Thursday, May 14, 2015	Princeton
Vancouver Island	
Monday, May 25, 2015	Courtenay
Tuesday, May 26, 2015	Nanaimo
Tuesday, May 26, 2015	Victoria
MLA hearings	
Wednesday, May 27, 2015	Victoria

Appendix E: Considerations for the Legislative Assembly, data

The data in this appendix is included to support the challenges for representation by population raised in our Considerations for the Legislative Assembly on page 140.

Table E.1: Variation in electoral districts for the 1999, 2008 and 2015 Commissions

Variation range	1999 Commission number of districts	2008 Commission number of districts	2015 Commission number of districts
+20% to +25%	1	6	0
+15% to +19.9%	3	6	8
+10% to +14.9%	14	12	23
+5% to +9.9%	17	19	18
0% to +4.9%	17	16	10
0% to -4.9%	6	6	7
-5% to -9.9%	7	4	5
-10% to -14.9%	1	2	2
-15% to -19.9%	5	1	1
-20% to -24.9%	2	3	3
> -25%	6	10	10
Total electoral districts	**79**	**85**	**87**

The 1999 Commission proposed 59.5% of all electoral districts within +/- 10% of the average population. For the 2008 Commission, only 52.9% of districts were within a range of +/- 10% of the average. For the 2015 Commission, this factor has dropped to 46% of electoral districts being within +/- 10%. A similar trend of growing population inequality exists when one looks at electoral districts with relatively large populations. For the 1999 Commission, 22.8% of all districts were between 10% and 25% over the provincial average, whereas for the 2008 and 2015 Commissions, 28.2% and 35.6% of districts were between 10% and 25%.

Appendix E: Considerations for the Legislative Assembly, data, continued

Table E.2. Variation in electoral districts greater than 25% below average for the 1999, 2008 and 2015 Commissions

Variation range	1999 Commission number of districts	2008 Commission number of districts	2015 Commission number of districts
-25% to -34.9%	6	3	1
-35% to -49.9%	0	5	7
> -50%	0	2	2
Total electoral districts more than 25% below provincial average	**6**	**10**	**10**

Not only are fewer electoral districts within +/- 10% of the average population, and a growing percentage of electoral districts, especially those in the Lower Mainland, are increasingly likely to be more than 10% above the provincial average, but the districts in the less populous areas are becoming relatively smaller. For example, as shown above, the 1999 Commission proposals produced six of 79 electoral districts that were described as "extraordinary". Of these six, all of them were between 25% and 35% below the provincial average. For the 2008 Commission, the number of "exceptional" districts grew to 10 of 85 districts.

Of these, three were between 25% and 35% below average, five were from 35% to 50% below average, and two were more than 50% below average – all 10 are in defined areas. For the 2015 Commission, 10 of 87 electoral districts are more than 25% below average, and each is within one of the defined regions. Only one of these is between 25% and 35% below average, seven are between 35% and 50% below average and two are more than 50% below average. Even among these latter two districts, variation has gone from -52.2% and -57.4 below average for the 2008 Commission to -57.9% and -61.2% below average for the 2015 Commission.

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